

THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

VOL. XXVIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 1157.]

LONDON: SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1868.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED... 6d.
STAMPED..... 6d.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

MR. GLADSTONE'S BILL.

THE Bill for the abolition of compulsory Church-rates, notice of which was given to the House of Commons just before the close of last Session, and which was brought in and read a first time in the autumnal portion of the present Session, has been printed and is now before us. It bears the endorsement of Mr. Gladstone, Sir George Grey, and Mr. Roundell Palmer. It seems to have been carefully drawn, and its few clauses (with the exception of the sixth, to which we shall presently call attention) appear to us well framed for the accomplishment of the object set forth in the preamble.

It first abolishes compulsory Church-rates by prohibiting any suit, whether in any ecclesiastical or other courts, or before any magistrate, to enforce their payment. Three exceptions are made:—1, where money has been borrowed on the security of Church-rates; 2, where money, in the name of Church-rates, is ordered to be raised under the provisions of any Act of Parliament; and, 3, where the rate has been made before the passing of the present Bill. But in the two first-mentioned cases, rates may only continue to be made and levied, for the purpose of paying off the money due, until the debt contracted, or the obligation imposed, shall have been liquidated, and it is provided that the Churchwarden's accounts in respect of such debt or obligation shall be annually audited by the district auditor of the Poor Law Union. The Bill then goes on to make the assessment of a voluntary Church-rate in any parish or ecclesiastical district lawful, and to give authority to the parishioners to determine the manner of the assessment. If at any vestry for assessing a voluntary rate a poll be demanded, the name of every voter is to be entered in writing in a book to be headed as follows:—"We, the undersigned, being ready and willing to pay our respective shares of such voluntary rate, if any, as may be determined upon by the majority of votes at the poll now taken, do hereby give our votes upon the question on which a poll has been demanded," and all who vote on that question are to sign their names or affix their marks in the place proper to signify the vote they may desire to give. Then comes the sixth clause, which makes it legal to pay, or agree to pay, a voluntary assessment or contribution towards any purpose for which Church-rates

have hitherto been paid. So far good—but the clause adds this remarkable provision:—"And nothing in this Act shall prevent any agreement to make any such payment, on the faith of which any expenditure shall have been made, or any liability incurred, from being enforced in the same manner as other contracts of a like nature might be enforced in any Court of law or equity." Where no special provision may be made, with the concurrence of the contributors, for the receipt and expenditure of the money so raised, it is to be paid to, and expended by the Churchwardens, for the same purpose and in the same way as Church-rates are now expended, and an annual account is to be rendered to the parishioners—and where any Churchwarden is disqualified to act, a treasurer may be elected in his stead—but no person will have a right to vote upon any question as to making a voluntary assessment, nor to vote or act (as Churchwarden or otherwise) as to the disposal of funds so raised, who shall not have paid up his voluntary assessment, or contribution, for any year in which a voluntary rate shall have been made.

We confess that the notice given some time since by the right hon. gentleman in reference to this measure awakened a feeling of regret in our mind. We very greatly prefer the simpler and more effective measure of the hon. member for Bury St. Edmunds, if for no other reason, because it would not have exposed Dissenters in rural parishes to that social pressure which will be sure to be brought to bear upon them to wring from each of them a vote in favour of what the Bill describes as a "voluntary rate." Those who know how unmercifully the screw is put on farm-tenants and struggling tradespeople who happen to be Nonconformists, sometimes by the incumbent, sometimes by the squire, sometimes by both, and by their ladies, too, to extract pecuniary support for the Church at which they do not worship, will anticipate with no pleasurable expectation the passing of a measure which, leaving all the old vestry machinery untouched, will also leave thousands in a position in which it will squeeze them just as severely as before. Greatly against their wishes, and not without considerable reluctance, we supported Mr. Gladstone's Bill of 1866, and we did so simply on the ground that it wholly swept away our religious objection to the employment of law for the exaction of Church demands. Under such circumstances we could not refuse assent to a measure which, nevertheless, we by no means preferred. We cannot authoritatively state at this moment how many parishes in England and Wales there are in which no Church-rate is levied—and we have not heard that the smallest difficulty has been actually felt in any of them, in raising and expending money by Anglican Churchmen for Church purposes. It may be deemed safer to legalise this voluntary action—though we do not think it has been, or is, exposed to the smallest danger of unwarrantable interference—and we have never been unwilling to give legal sanction to arrangements which are now made without caring to obtain it. But to secure to Church parishioners all the machinery for legally making a rate, even though it cannot be enforced, is practically to give to such of them as may be disposed to exercise it, the power of legal intimidation over dissentients, and hence we had cherished the hope that when the right hon. gentleman's Bill

met with no better reception from the Tory side than Mr. Harcastle's, it would not again have been put into competition with it. Between the comparative worth of the two Bills, there can be no difference of opinion among Dissenters.

The question which we had to consider in 1866 was, not which of the two measures we preferred, but whether we would withhold assent to that which we liked least, but which, in the main, carried out the principle for which we had all along contended, when it was offered by a leading member of Government supposed to possess the power of carrying it through both Houses. It comes before us now in another shape. The worse is put in competition with the better Bill, but without any reasonable pledge that by accepting it, we shall insure its passing into an Act. We should feel pleasure in obliging Mr. Gladstone by shifting our ground—so long as we were not called upon to surrender any principle—but, of course, he will not object to our asking him what we are to profit by it. Will he secure us a larger majority in the House of Commons than was recorded for Mr. Harcastle's measure last year? Or will he be able to carry his Bill through the House of Lords? If he can give us no guarantee in respect of either of these ends, he will not, we trust, take it unkindly, that we can discover none but a personal reason for changing our front in the presence of the enemy. Unless we are certain of being able to close the controversy this Session, we should by accepting his proposals in lieu of our own, be gratuitously throwing away a strong position. For we can wait—and, seeing that next Parliament will be chosen by a much more numerous constituency than the present, we can wait with confidence. We shall at worst lose but a year—and we expect to gain a majority which even the Lords will find it awkward to resist. Is it necessary for us to give up the game just when we can calculate upon winning it? Mr. Gladstone, we are convinced, will see that our concession in 1866 cannot be pleaded as a precedent for concession in 1868.

Thus much we should have urged if the Bill before us was the best fitted for its object that human wisdom could have devised. But can the right hon. gentleman entertain the faintest hope of obtaining the united support of the Dissenting communities, while in the sixth clause of his Bill he re-enacts compulsion? We beseech him not to put the matter to an issue. If he carries that clause, it must be against the voice, and not with the concurrence, of at least half his own political adherents. We are at a loss to conjecture the quarter from which advice to insert this proviso can have been tendered to the right hon. gentleman. It is hardly necessary to discuss it on its merits, for to do so would only divert attention from the point which it is far more important that the promoters of the measure should consider. We state, then, our deliberate and confident belief that the parties whom the Bill is intended to relieve cannot possibly accept it if it is to be vitiated by this proviso—cannot even let it go into Committee till they are given to understand that this exception to its principle will be withdrawn. We think it due to the right hon. gentleman to give him timely warning that it does not lie within our power to foretell what amount of support the Bill would receive from the



sengers—considering the proximity of a general election—were this obnoxious feature of it at once obliterated—but we think we can unhesitatingly predict that it will be almost unanimously rejected by them if compulsion, in whatever specious disguise, is suffered to remain as one of its provisions.

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHIC SKETCHES.

III.

OPINIONS OF STATESMEN AND HISTORIANS ON CHURCH AND DISSENT.

ANY person who is moderately well acquainted with the leading facts of English history will know that for three hundred years past the Established Church has, with one exception, invariably been found to range itself on the side of a despotic government, while the Dissenters have been found, with equal consistency, to range themselves on the side of freedom. No one can possibly understand the history of England who does not keep in sight this fact. All through the various stages of the nation's progress there have been two conflicting powers at work, one holding it back, the other beckoning it forward; the first represented by the Church, the second by Dissent. At certain great political and social crises these powers have come into open conflict, but such crises have not arisen until after many years of ordinary polemical warfare, during which the Dissenters have generally, but not always, been able to bring the bulk of the governing classes to their views,—that is to say, the governing classes have come to the conclusion that it would be expedient to pursue the line of policy identified with Dissent rather than that identified with the Church. It is not the purpose of this paper to give the history of such events, but simply to quote the judgment of some of the most eminent of English statesmen and historians concerning the different influences which the Established Church and Dissent have exercised upon the actual history of England. Eloquent although the words may be in which these judgments are expressed, the deeds to which they refer are far more eloquent. It is possible to give in a few lines the result of a battle, but who can estimate or describe the life lived or the life sacrificed before that result was achieved? Who can weigh the exact value of that self-sacrifice which has induced men to lead the apparently forlorn hopes of English progress? The heroism of the battle-field is nothing to the heroism of Milton, of De Foe, of the two thousand ejected, and of most of those who cast in their lot with the Dissenters in the earlier period of English Dissent. But the courage which enabled them to endure enabled them also to fight. What these conflicts have been worth to the nation let those say who have best studied its history.

The liberties of England were never in greater danger than during the reign of the Tudors, when the earlier Puritans first appeared. The first quotation we make is the familiar one from the historian Hume, who despised both Puritanism and religion, but who could not withhold his testimony in favour of the political influences of Puritanism. Writing of this period, Hume emphatically remarks:—

So absolute was the authority of the Crown, that the precious spark of liberty had been kindled and was preserved by the Puritans alone. And to this sect the English owe the whole freedom of their constitution.

On which side Dissenters were found during the time of the Stuarts, no one needs to be told, nor how they broke the Stuart power. In the earlier part of the reign of this dynasty the Church possessed the most unlimited power which it ever possessed. What was the result? This is Lord Macaulay's testimony:—

It is an unquestionable and a most instructive fact that the years during which the political power of the Anglican hierarchy was in the zenith were precisely the years during which national virtue was at the lowest point.—*History*, vol. i., p. 101.

In another place the same author says,—

The Church of England continued to be for more than a hundred and fifty years the servile handmaid of monarchy, the steady enemy of public liberty. The divine right of kings, and the duty of passively obeying all their commands, were her favourite tenets. She held these tenets firmly through times of oppression, persecution, and licentiousness, while law was trampled down, while judgment was perverted, while the people were eaten as though they were bread. Once, and but once—for a moment and but for a moment—when her own dignity and prosperity were touched, she forgot to practise the submission she had taught.—*Essays*, vol. i., p. 60.

Writing of the same and the subsequent period, one of the latest and ablest of historical writers, Mr. Lecky, the author of the "History of Rationalism," no less eloquently remarks:—

It is to Puritanism that we mainly owe the fact that

in England religion and liberty were not discovered: among all the fluctuations of its fortune, it represented the alliance of these two principles, which the predominating Church invariably pronounced to be incompatible.

The attitude of this latter Church forms indeed a strange contrast to that of Puritanism. Created in the first instance by a court intrigue, pervaded in all its parts by a spirit of the most intense Erastianism, and aspiring at the same time to a spiritual authority scarcely less absolute than that of the Church which it had superseded, Anglicanism was from the beginning, at once the most servile and the most efficient agent of tyranny; endeavouring by the assistance of temporal authority, and by the display of worldly pomp, to realise in England the same position as Catholicism had occupied in Europe, she naturally flung herself on every occasion into the arms of the civil power. No other Church so uniformly betrayed and trampled on the liberties of her country. In all those fiery trials through which English liberty has passed since the Reformation, she invariably cast her influence into the scale of tyranny, supported and enlivened every attempt to violate the Constitution, and wrote the fearful sentence of eternal condemnation upon the tombs of the martyrs of freedom. That no tyranny however gross, that no violation of the Constitution however flagrant, can justify resistance; that all those principles concerning the rights of nations on which constitutional government is based are false, and all those efforts of resistance by which constitutional government is achieved are deadly sins, was her emphatic and continual teaching.

When Charles I. attempted to convert the monarchy into a despotism, the English Church gave him its constant and enthusiastic support. When, in the gloomy period of vice and reaction that followed the Restoration, the current of opinion set in against all liberal opinions, and the maxims of despotism were embodied even in the Oath of Allegiance, the Church of England directed the stream, allied herself in the closest union with a Court whose vices were the scandal of Christendom, and exhausted her anathemas, not upon the hideous corruption that surrounded her, but upon the principles of Hampden and of Milton. All through the long series of the encroachments of the Stuarts she exhibited the same spirit. The very year when Russell died was selected by the University of Oxford to condemn the writings of Buchanan, Baxter, and Milton, and to proclaim the duty of passive obedience in a decree the House of Lords soon afterwards committed to the flames. It was not till James had menaced her supremacy that the Church was aroused to resistance. Then, indeed, for a brief but memorable period, she placed herself in opposition to the Crown, and contributed largely to one of the most glorious events in English history. But no sooner had William mounted the throne than her policy was reversed, her whole energies were directed to the subversion of the constitutional liberty that was then firmly established, and it is recorded by the great historian of the Revolution that at least nine-tenths of the clergy were opposed to the emancipation of England. All through the reaction under Queen Anne, all through the still worse reaction under George III., the same spirit was displayed. In the first period, the clergy, in their hatred of liberty, followed cordially the leadership of the infidel Bolingbroke; in the second, they were the most ardent supporters of the wars against America and against the French Revolution, which have been the most disastrous in which England has ever been engaged. From first to last their conduct was the same, and every triumph of liberty was their defeat.—*History of Rationalism in Europe*, vol. ii., p. 193–198.

Long though this quotation may be, it has to be supplemented. The latter part refers to the Hanoverian dynasty. Two Church and Stuart rebellions arose against that dynasty, one in 1715 and the other in 1745. We quote first from Charles James Fox on the conduct of the Church and of Dissenters at these memorable periods, when, if the Dissenters had cast in their lot with the Stuarts, the House of Hanover must have been deposed,—

"A candid examination," said the great Whig orator and statesman, speaking in the House of Commons on March 2, 1790, "of the history of Great Britain, would in his opinion be favourable to Dissenters. In the rebellions of 1715 and 1745 this country was extremely indebted to their exertions. During those rebellious periods they had acted with the spirit and fidelity of British subjects zealous and vigilant in defence of the Constitution; at both these periods they stood forward the champions of British liberty, and obtained an eminent share in repelling the foe of the House of Hanover. Their exertions then were so magnanimous that he had no scruple to assert that to their endeavours we owed the preservation of Church and State."

To the same purport is the testimony of Burke, who on many great questions was Fox's opponent. "Let him," said Burke, speaking on February 6, 1772, in reference to an attack that had been made by a member of the House of Commons upon Dissenters, "recollect along with the injuries, the services which Dissenters have done to our Church and to our State. If they have once destroyed, more than once they have saved them."

We will not quote Lord Chatham's "Calvinistic and Arminian Popish" speech, for it hardly bears upon the point we wish to illustrate. And we leave historical inquirers to estimate the influence of Dissent upon certain political and social questions which have agitated England during the last twenty years. One exception we make, for, upon the question of Reform, the historian of this movement, himself a clergyman, has spoken with great faithfulness and candour. The action of Church and Dissent upon this question is typical of their action on all similar questions:—

The clergy especially (says Mr. Molesworth), remembering the fate of the French priesthood, and the spoliation of the French Church, were almost unanimous in their hopes of the proposed innovation. Already highly unpopular,

partly on account of the determined opposition which as a body they had offered to every proposal for the extension of civil and religious liberty, and partly on account of the vexations and disputes attendant on the collection of tithes, they rendered themselves still more odious by their undisguised detestation of the new measure. . . . Under the influence of terrors thus excited, the clergy set themselves to oppose that which the nation fondly and almost unanimously desired.—*History of the Bill of 1832*.

As Earl Russell pithily said in one of the debates on the Church-rates Abolition Bill—"I know the Dissenters. They carried the Reform Bill, they carried the abolition of slavery, they carried Free Trade, and they will carry this question." And what others? Let the history be the prophecy of the future, and the future statesmen and historians of England will do even greater, and certainly a less tardy justice than has been done in the past. Facts can never be buried for ever. There is sure to be a Macaulay to re-write a nation's annals, and a Carlyle to do justice to its heroes. But if not! We have a history that we can bear to see written on the everlasting tablets of eternal memory.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

THERE was a curious indication of Church arrogance and supremacy at the Education Conference at Manchester on Wednesday, which ought not to pass without notice. The preliminary meeting of the Conference was composed, we are informed, of several members of Parliament, clergy of all denominations, and gentlemen of every shade of politics. How it must have surprised (or did it surprise them?) these various persons to be told by the Dean of Manchester, in the very first speech which was delivered, that the education question was a "Church question," a declaration which the reverend dignitary followed up by a short defence of the Ecclesiastical Establishment, stating that he believed it to be "necessary and suited to the wants of the country," and that without it it "would be impossible that we could exist long together." The Dean of Chester followed in the same line, and spoke just as though the Conference would have nothing to do excepting to decide upon the best means of increasing the influence of the Establishment. The bad taste of these speakers has been equalled in the history of the clerical order before this time, but it has scarcely been surpassed. We are glad to see that it was not imitated by any Nonconformist. If, anywhere, ecclesiastical arrogance and egotism might well keep out of sight, it is in Lancashire, where the Church ministers to but a fraction of the people, and where its influence has been decreasing for the last fifty years. The Conference, of course, did not adopt the lead of the two reverend deans. A good many speakers appeared to forget that there was any Church Establishment, and most were singularly oblivious of the fact that the question they had met to discuss was a "Church" and not a national question.

One cannot write upon this subject without being encountered, at one corner or other, by that painfully active man, Archdeacon Denison. The Archdeacon has this week another "say" upon it. He does not intend to allow Churchmen to forget that on the 12th February he will lay a set of resolutions before a public meeting at Willis's Rooms which he thinks will solve the Education problem. We have now the terms of these resolutions, which state that aid to public schools shall be given, not by local or general, but by Parliamentary grant, and that such aid shall be applied first to assist in building schools of all religious bodies, which shall be open to all children whose parents are willing to accept the education and to comply with the rules and regulations of the schools. "Religious teaching therein," and all manner of regulation connected with it, to be "left unconditionally free to the manager" of each school. Annual grants are to be administered upon the same terms, and "purely secular" schools may be supported in the same way. Archdeacon Denison may have a most intimate acquaintance with ecclesiastical, but he has evidently, as all such men have, very little knowledge of human nature. His scheme looks wonderfully just and liberal, and it really is a good specimen of clerical cunning. But does he really suppose that people will not think to inquire how it will operate? Owing to the large grants received from the State, the Church is now conducting day-school education in most of the smaller parishes of England. In some of its schools the Conscience Clause is in operation. Archdeacon Denison's resolutions would deprive Dissenters of the small amount of liberty conceded even by this Clause. They would hand over all children to be taught Puseyism, Rationalism, or Evangelicism, just as the incumbent and managers may be Puseyite, Rationalistic, or Evangelical. No education could be received ex-

cepting upon such terms. But the scheme is hardly worth writing about. We should, however, like to know what Archdeacon Denison would think of it if the positions of Church and Dissent in rural districts, with respect to national education, was the reverse of what it is? We write not intending, in the least degree, to ridicule the Archdeacon's earnestness, or his singleness of principle and aim. We have a profound respect for his moral qualities, but it really is not likely that any person of common sense, outside of the Church, will be drawn into an approval of his specious scheme for the further extension and consolidation of Church power.

Some of the leading Churchmen of England have just set a remarkable example of respect for imperial law. It has been decided, in our courts of justice, that Dr. Colenso is the legal Bishop of the See of Natal, and, as such, is entitled to all the revenues of that see. Some Churchmen, acting under the inspiration of the highest ecclesiastical authorities, have now decided upon sending out another bishop to Natal. This office, as we learn from a letter from the Bishop of Capetown to the *Guardian* of this week, has been accepted by the Rev. W. K. Macrorie, who will forthwith go out to Africa and do all he can to lessen the authority and influence of Dr. Colenso. We wait with some curiosity to see how this reverend gentleman will be "consecrated." No bishop, excepting one or two Nonjurors, has ever been consecrated in England since the Reformation excepting by Royal license, and according to a legally prescribed form. Both of these requisites will be wanting in this case, and it is, in our judgment, a grave question whether this bishop can be "consecrated" at all. He certainly cannot be in any legally authorised manner, and if that be the case, will he be a "bishop" at all? We are aware that the South African Church is now a voluntary association, but we are also aware that it has not adopted any form for the consecration of bishops, and that it cannot use the English form. As soon as it does the former, it will take the step which has been so much dreaded both there and at home—finally separate from the English Church.

We are glad to see that Mr. Mason Jones is about to deliver a course of lectures in the neighbourhood of London upon the Irish Church. Those who heard that gentleman last week at St. James's Hall, and who saw the enthusiasm which was excited by his oratory, will be pleased at his devoting his unquestionably great powers to the cause of ecclesiastical freedom. The St. James's Hall meeting was one of the best political meetings which we have attended in the metropolis for many years. The numbers present were unexpectedly large, and their spirit most unmistakable. The *Times* refers to it, in a leading article, as a meeting of Nonconformists, but this is not an accurate description. It was characteristically a meeting of the electors under the new Reform Bill, and we doubt if there were a hundred Nonconformists present. We could not count twenty. The *Record* has the following unctuous allusion to it:—"Meanwhile, we cannot avoid expressing our supreme regret at seeing the name of that truly respectable and excellent Nonconformist, the Rev. Dr. Raleigh, among the supporters of the movement. He appears to have taken no part in the meeting, but his very presence will do the cause of religion no good."

THE IRISH CHURCH.

ACTION IN THE METROPOLIS.—Our readers will be glad to learn that arrangements have been made for the delivery of an address on the Irish Church question in each of the metropolitan boroughs. It will be seen, from an advertisement elsewhere, that meetings for the purpose are to be held next week at the Eyre Arms, St. John's-wood; the Vestry Hall, Chelsea; Westbourne Hall; and at the Literary Institution, Greenwich. These, we believe, will be followed by others at Islington, Kennington, Stepney, the City, and other places; and it is intended to submit to the meetings petitions to Parliament for the impartial disendowment of all sects in Ireland. We have no doubt that a very large number of persons in the metropolis will be glad to avail themselves of this opportunity of hearing Mr. Mason Jones's talented advocacy of the cause of religious equality in Ireland, as well as to do their part towards putting an end to one of the greatest anomalies of the age.

COVENTRY.—The Rev. Chas. Vince, of Birmingham, delivered a lecture on the Irish Church question last week, at St. Mary's Hall, Coventry. Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, there was a very crowded audience, including several of the Nonconformist ministers and influential Liberals of the town. Mr. W. H. Hill occupied the chair. At the outset,

Mr. Vince (who was most cordially received) avowed that he came before them as the representative of the Society for the Liberation of Religion from State Patronage and Control—a society that was based on this great fundamental principle, that every man's religion was pre-eminently a matter between man and his God (Hear), and a matter in which the political authorities of the country had no right to interfere. He was there to endeavour to convince those who needed conviction that full justice to Ireland must be a conspicuous part of the Liberal programme for the future—(cheers)—and that full justice to Ireland meant, among other things, the disendowment of all Christian churches in that country—(Hear, hear)—the putting of all religious denominations on the same platform, the State paying none and patronising none. He then entered into an historical retrospect with a view to show the non-Irish character of the Irish State Church from the beginning, its persecuting spirit, and its failure as a missionary institution. The lecturer concluded that the political establishment of Protestantism was a failure, a blunder, and a sin. He raked among these embers of fire, because Ireland would not, Ireland could not, forget her own past history, and England must not forget it. He dealt with these facts because the Irish Church still existed.

Thank God that no matter by whom the false, foul thing was employed, it generally frustrated its own purpose—like vaulting ambition, o'erleaped itself, and fell on 'other side." (Cheers.) In 1861 only 11.9-10ths per cent. of the population of Ireland belonged to the Established Church—that Church which absorbed the whole of the ecclesiastical revenues of Ireland. In 1834 the Episcopalians in Ireland were 10.7-10ths of the population; and the improvement of the 2.1-10ths per cent. was to be accounted for by the greater diminution of the Roman Catholic population by pestilence, famine, and emigration. What Lord Macaulay said in 1845 remained substantially true in 1867. He said, We are asked to make allowance for the expansive force of Protestantism. Recently a noble lord spoke on the missionary character of the Church of Ireland. Now, if such language had been held at the Council Board of Queen Elizabeth when the constitution of this Church was first debated there, there would have been no cause for wonder. Sir William Cecil or Sir Nicholas Bacon might very naturally have said, "There are few Protestants now in Ireland, it is true; but when he consider how rapidly the Protestant theology has spread, when we remember that it is little more than forty years since Martin Luther began to preach against indulgences, and when we see that one half of Europe is now emancipated from the old superstition, we may reasonably expect that the Irish will soon follow the examples of the other nations which have embraced the doctrines of the Reformation." But we, who have seen this system in full operation from the year 1560 to the year 1845, ought to have been taught better, unless, indeed, we are past all teaching. Two hundred and eighty-five years has this Church been at work. What could have been done for it in the way of authority, privileges, endowments, which has not been done? And what have we to show for all this lavish expenditure? What but the most zealous Roman Catholic population on the face of the earth? On the great solid mass of the Roman Catholic population you have made no impression whatever. There they are, as they were ages ago, ten to one against the members of your Established Church. But what is a Protestant to say? He holds that through the whole of this long conflict, during which ten generations of men have been born and have died reason and Scripture have been on the side of the Established clergy. The fuller our conviction that our doctrines are right, the fuller, if we are rational men, must be our conviction that our tactics have been wrong, and that we have been encumbering the cause which we meant to aid. (Cheers.)

After quoting from the statistics given in Mr. Godkin's book, showing the large revenues devoted to the support of a small number of Protestants, he went on to say—

As to the defence of the present system, it was said the Roman Catholic population did not support the Irish Church—it was supported by the landlords who were Protestants. And though the landlords in Ireland were the channels through which the tithes were paid, the money paid over was the fruit of the skill, enterprise, and industry of the men who rented and tilled the land—the great body of the Roman Catholic population. (Hear, hear.) It was said that this was only an imaginary grievance. Would the Episcopalians feel it an imaginary grievance if the Government enthroned the smallest sect in England, and set it up in every part of the country, in a position of prestige and power, as the Church of the realm? No, they would very properly say—even though they paid nothing to such a Church in the shape of Church-rates—that there were other grievances besides pecuniary grievances, and that to inflict upon men political disabilities or social penalties was even worse than to take his money to support a religious system in which he did not believe. (Applause.) In the interests of Protestantism, the sooner the Irish political establishment was annihilated the better. (Cheering.) If the audience were convinced of the truth of the words he had spoken, let them cherish that conviction against the days of the next election. (Great cheering.)

HULL.—The Rev. W. Walters, of Newcastle, has also been delivering his lecture on the Irish Church in the Royal Institution, Hull. The hall was crowded, and the chair taken by Mr. Councillor Allott. The lecturer, who was cordially received, gave a sketch of the early Christianity of Ireland; he then referred to the present position of the Irish Church; and lastly, stated the duty of Government in relation to the question. With reference to the ecclesiastical endowment of the Catholic priesthood, he might say that he was opposed to ecclesiastical endowments, and further that the priesthood did not desire it, but they wished to be supported by the free-will offerings of the people. He was convinced that no Government could bring the Irish question to a satisfactory settlement, except by the withdrawal of the grant from

Maynooth, and the disendowment of the Irish Church. He did not mean to say that this was the only grievance of which Ireland had to complain, but one of the worst of all. He wished for the disendowment of the Irish Church, because he wished to see Protestantism continue and become universal in Ireland. (Applause.) He proclaimed war against the State Church. The question would soon come before the legislature of the country, and he asked his hearers as electors to study the question, and make themselves acquainted with its bearings, and be prepared to pronounce, through their members in the House of Commons, an intelligent judgment on it. (Applause.) The Rev. J. Sibree moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, which was seconded, and cordially adopted, as well as a similar vote to the chairman.

We learn from a letter published in the daily papers that, in addition to the Central Protestant Defence Association of Dublin for the support of the Irish Church, a committee in connection with it has been formed in London, with the view of diffusing information, and of meeting the action of the Liberation Society. One of the objects of this committee is stated to be opposition to any endowment of the Catholic clergy. The aggregate meeting in Dublin is to be held on the 5th of February, and there is to be "a great meeting" in London as soon as practicable.

The Bishop of Ossory, Dr. O'Brien, in a letter to his clergy on the Irish Church question, approves highly of the movement that has sprung up in Ireland for a lay defence association, and trusts that its plans will be "well considered beforehand" for the meeting in Dublin in February. He thinks the clergy have the special duty of instructing the laity as to the history, status, and endowments of the Church, and that sermons and lectures should be delivered on the subject. He suggests Sunday, the 19th inst., for the purpose, and says that they might show the true nature and full extent of the evils to be apprehended from the disendowment of the Church. Dr. O'Brien adds:—"A constant *pro aris* necessarily calls into activity some of the strongest feelings of our nature. And however well regulated and rightly-directed such feelings may be at the outset, they are apt, as the warfare goes on, to become less and less under control, and to pass into feelings of resentment against those who are seeking to rob us of the rights which we value most for ourselves and for those dearest to us." This change is peculiarly likely to take place in the present case, Dr. O'Brien believes, for every honest man must "look with grave disapprobation upon the unworthy motives by which the great majority of the assailants of the Church are actuated, and with strong indignation upon the disgraceful means which they have employed to accomplish their ends."

The chapter of the *Dublin Freeman's Journal* "Church Commission" published on Monday, deals with the united diocese of Tuam, Killala, and Achonry, the district where the Protestant missionary societies (to Roman Catholics) have for years chiefly operated. Eleven of its clergymen are stated to be on the foundation of the Church Missions Society. The amount expended by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners on Church fabrics between 1834 and 1865 in the three dioceses is stated to have been 59,144l. 12s. 3d. The *Freeman's Journal* disputes the correctness of statements by the Bishop of Winchester, Canon Wordsworth, Archdeacon Stopford, the Rev. Mr. Garnett, and Archbishop Trench, respecting the increase of Protestantism in this western locality. "After more than a quarter of a century of missionary labours the Anglicans have now an absolute decrease of numbers from 21,765 in 1834 to 17,167 in 1861." The *Freeman's Journal* accounts for the failure of the missions by alleging that "the most sacred articles of the Catholic faith are described in ribald doggerel," and among the "handbills" distributed it gives as a specimen one called "The Tuam Mission-house Song," with the air of the "Shan Van Voort," of which a verse, as given in the *Freeman's Journal*, is this:—

They told us they could make,
Says the Shan van Voort,
Their Maker from a oak,
Says the Shan van Voort.
And thus they tried to joke us
With their magic hocus pocus,
Till to their yoke they broke us,
Says the Shan van Voort.

"This is a mild specimen," says the *Journal*, "of the missionary agencies originated by the late Bishop of Tuam, approved of by the Primate, endorsed by the present occupant of the see, the street singers of which are protected by the public force of the country, and, alas! for his intellect, the object and use of which are approved by the present Archbishop of Dublin. The singing of this and similar productions by Archdeacon Stopford's proselytised ballad-singers in fairs and markets—the minstrelsy of the mission—the scattering of it and similar-insulting productions in the highways and byways, and the sending of them in envelopes to the archbishops, bishops, deans, and priests of the Catholic Church, are the services rendered by the 'Established Church' to the Catholic people of these dioceses for the large endowments conferred on that important institution by a State that claims the affections, and is by law entitled to the loyalty of Irish Catholics." The *Freeman's Journal* also states the "average cost per family of every Anglican in these dioceses as 8l. 6s. 6d. per annum," and "in a group of fourteen benefices the average cost is 37l. 5s. 6d. per family."

THE ST. ALBAN'S RITUAL CASE.

The case of Martin v. the Rev. W. Mackonochie was resumed before the Right Hon. Sir Robert Phillimore, in the Arches Court, on Friday, the 10th inst.

Mr. W. M. James, Q.C., commenced the defence of Mr. Mackonochie, denying that he had offended against the laws ecclesiastical, and that the charges were not specified nor laid with accuracy to support the criminal charge now made. The learned counsel drew a vivid picture of the neighbourhood of St. Alban's, Holborn, where Mr. Mackonochie laboured and done much good to remove the heathenish darkness which there prevailed, and he denied that he was open to the extract read by Mr. Coleridge from the works of St. Bernard. He asked the Court to discharge him from the charges, and that he might return in peace to the place where he had by his assiduity been of great advantage to thousands of his fellow-creatures.

Mr. Pridaux, Q.C., followed on the same side till the rising of the Court, and resumed his argument on Saturday. He contended, on behalf of the defendant, that the charges against his client did not constitute an offence against the common law. To make out the case the promoter was bound to show that the defendant had offended against the penal clauses of the Act of Uniformity, which enacted that acts complained of against a clergyman must have been wilfully and obstinately committed. Mr. Mackonochie believed, and would continue to believe, that it was lawful to elevate the Blessed Sacrament above his head; he believed, and to the end of his life would continue to believe, that it was lawful to cense persons and things; but he had desisted from this practice under protest, on being required by the bishop to do so. There was therefore nothing wilful, nothing obstinate in the proceedings of the defendant, and he was entitled to have the statute interpreted strictly. He had acted under the honest conviction that that which he did was lawful. Mr. Pridaux then referred to the penal clause in the Act of Uniformity of Elizabeth, within which, he contended, the charges against the defendant should be brought, or the case failed. It had not been shown, and could not be, that the defendant acted wilfully and obstinately. On the contrary, it was clear that he had not so acted. But, even if he had done the things charged wilfully and obstinately, they did not either separately or collectively constitute a rite or a ceremony, or an order, or a form. The question was whether Mr. Mackonochie, in celebrating this one rite—this great feast upon the Eucharistic sacrifice, common to all branches of the Catholic Church, each celebrating it according to its own missal or prayer-book—could be said to have used a rite or ceremony, order, form, or manner of celebrating the Holy Communion other than and not according to the use of the Church of England. What the Church of England dealt with was not the rite, but the specific use by which that rite universal was to be celebrated. He contended that what the defendant had introduced did not constitute a rite, and was not, therefore, within the penal clause of the Act. He considered that the ceremonies of the Church might fairly be taken as signifying only the verbal portion of the service. It could not be properly argued, he thought, that any observance not entered in the Prayer-book was illegal, for in the second Prayer-book of Edward VI. no mention whatever was made of the practice of consecrating the elements at the sacrament, and it could not be supposed that the custom fell into disuse during any period of our history. The Prayer-book, in fact, did not deal with ritual, but where it contained ritualistic directions of course it should be obeyed. Dr. Stephens felt the force of the argument arising from the fact that in the first Prayer-book there was a prohibitory rubric against the elevation of the sacrament, and that the prohibition was omitted in the second. There were no directions as to consecration, and yet it must have been performed. There must have been faithful Mackonochies in those days who celebrated the Holy Eucharist, the great act of worship in the Church of Christ. And if it were so, and it must have been, what became of the argument on the other side, that what was not expressly commanded by the rubric had gone? As to the mixed chalice, it was abundantly clear that it was in use during the second Prayer-book. The canon of 1640 directed bowing to the altar. What prosecution had there ever been for bowing to the altar?

There was bowing to the altar, on which were the symbols of the great Christian sacrifice, and it was no Popish superstition. For himself, he always took off his hat off when he saw a bust of Shakespeare. (A laugh.) Was that idolatry? My learned friend says, "It looks very like it." (A laugh.) He knew his learned friend well, and should be sorry if anything occurred to mar the mutual friendship of many years. He also knew the gallantry of his learned friend Dr. Stephens well. Well, he knew that if the learned Doctor met a lady of his acquaintance, he would take off his hat and bow to her. Perhaps, if it became known to the Church Association that he did so, he would be denounced as resorting to Popish superstition. (Laughter.) The practice of bowing to the altar prevailed in some of the university chapels and cathedrals.

On Monday Mr. Pridaux continued his address, and referred at some length to the preface on ceremonies in the Prayer-book. The preface, he said, concerned the service of the Church, and had nothing to do with the incidental ceremonial appurtenant to that service. From the beginning to the present time, practices had existed which were not directed in the Prayer-book. The fair linen cloth had been used from time immemorial. The irreverent spirit of the Puritans led them to discontinue its use, and there was no direction regard-

ing it in the first Prayer-book, but in the second Prayer-book it was found necessary to introduce a direction that it should be used. His learned friend said the Church of England was an act of Parliament Church. It was not an act of parliament Church; it was a branch of the one Holy Catholic Apostolic Church, and the celebration of the divine offices was to be carried on according to the use of the Church of England. It was not even an act of Parliament use. It was an use prepared by the only authority that had power to deal with the rites and ceremonies of the church of God. He asked if there was any prohibition against the use of the mixed chalice, or against the burning of the incense. Or where was there any prohibition whatever, except at the commencement, even pointing to the prohibition of candles? Coming to the specific charges, he contended that if lighted candles were embellishments they were perfectly lawful; and treating them as symbolical, they were perfectly lawful. They were of the same character as the cross, which had been held to be not an unlawful embellishment. They were not implements used in the service, and therefore Mr. Mackonochie could not be prosecuted for using them. An embellishment was not the less an embellishment because it was symbolical. The Privy Council had decided that crosses been symbolical, and not used in the service were lawful; and where was the difference between crosses and candles? But he submitted that Mr. Mackonochie had committed no offence, even if those candles had been used as part of the ceremony. The injunctions of Edward VI. were that two lights were to be kept burning on the high altar. Sir John Dodson held that those injunctions were binding, and the Privy Council, in reviewing that decision, did not throw any doubt on the validity of those injunctions. He maintained that the object of the rubric with regard to the use of ornaments was to return to the usage in the time of the first Prayer-book, and that whatever was used under the first Prayer-book might be used now.

Mr. Pridaux continued his address on Wednesday, occupying the whole day, and concluded it on Thursday. Mr. Fitzjames Stephens was to reply yesterday on the whole case.

There are in Italy, according to the latest statistics, 24,167,855 Roman Catholics; 32,932 Protestants; 29,233 Jews; 1,850 belonging to other sects.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN AND THE UNPOPULAR RECTOR.—A number of the parishioners of Dunganstown, county of Wicklow, having memorialised the Archbishop of Dublin against the appointment to the parish of the Rev. Mr. Maturin, a Dublin rector unpopular for alleged High-Church views, Dr. Trench has answered that, "As bishop he is not bound to know the opinions of the parishioners on different subjects." "I cannot cancel the appointment," the archbishop adds, "and if I could, I am not willing to do so."

THE BISHOPRIC OF NATAL.—The Rev. W. K. Macrorie, incumbent of Acorington, has, it is said, with the sanction of the Archbishop of Canterbury, accepted the appointment to the disputed see of Natal, and will shortly be sent out to take spiritual charge of such persons as reject the authority of Bishop Colenso. Mr. Macrorie was lately rector of Wapping, in the diocese of London, and is a moderate High-Churchman. As the new bishop cannot be consecrated by the Primate without the Queen's sanction, it has been suggested that the difficulty should be got over after this fashion:—Bishop Gray and Bishop Cotterell (Grahamstown), who are in England, might proceed to St. Helena (which is within Dr. Gray's jurisdiction as Metropolitan), and there, with the assistance of the Bishop of St. Helena, they might consecrate the bishop nominate, and afterwards take him on to his new sphere of labour. At the meeting of the English Church Union on Tuesday night, it was suggested by the Hon. Colin Lindsay that an annuity should be purchased for the new bishop, extending over Dr. Colenso's life. It was taken for granted, that in the event of Dr. Colenso's death or resignation, Bishop Macrorie would have the endowments of the see.

A TRIAL FOR HERESY.—Our continental contemporaries report:—Before the court-martial in the citadel, proceedings, bearing on a trial for heresy, in the true sense of the word, are taking place. A soldier who had been carried away when only seven years old returned to his home, having completed his twenty years of military service. He was the child of Jewish parents, and under the late Czar Nicholas it often occurred that Jewish boys of tender years were carried off. Such boys were baptized immediately after their abduction and received into the Greek Church. Now this Jewish soldier, baptized when a child, returned to his home, and in every way acted as a Jew. He was therefore prosecuted as an apostate; and as he positively declined, despite the allurement held out, to declare that he belonged to the Greek Church, the unfortunate man is threatened with a severe punishment in Siberia. He has even declined the offer momentarily to acknowledge the Greek Church, and then to withdraw to a foreign country, as he is determined not in any way to recognise the rite of baptism administered to him when he was only seven years old.—*Jewish Chronicle*.

FRENCH PROTESTANTS.—The Rev. R. Burgess, in a letter to the *Times*, says:—"It delights Monsignor Segur and the brethren of St. Vincent de Paul to repeat in their periodical journal, *Protestantisme est mort*, and yet they have formed a special association for the purpose of resisting the alarming spread of Protestantism. Protestantism, as represented by the orthodox portion of the Reformed Church of

France, has taken of late years a strong hold on the mind of the French people, where there is any care for religion at all. No work of any importance has for some years proceeded from the Roman Catholic press in France. The great writers of the age—Guizot, Weiss, St. Hilaire, Bonnechose, E. de Presensé, all are Protestants, and now that the Protestants have nearly gained religious liberty (in all great cities and towns at least), the mass of the French population is being leavened with such principles of religion as are in antagonism to those of Rome, whatever be the name by which they are called."

NATIONAL EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.—We understand that Government has fully resolved to bring forward a bill on national education during the ensuing session of Parliament. During the past week various deputations have waited on the Lord Advocate on this subject of national education; and all agree that his lordship has shown every disposition to ascertain the opinions of all parties, and has listened with much attention to the statements and suggestions which have been submitted to him. A large and influential deputation from the Free Church General Assembly's Committee on National Education, were received by his lordship on the 2nd inst., when the whole question underwent a pretty full, and on the whole, a fair discussion. The framework, so to speak, of the conversation, was of course the proposed bill, attached to the second report of the commissioners on schools in Scotland. The provisions of that matter were fully entered into, and the objections to several of them distinctly stated. The terms of transfer of the denominational into national schools, the future status of existing parish schools, the election and tenure of office of teachers, the extent and nature of religious teaching, and the constitution and seat of the controlling authority, were brought to his lordship's notice, and discussed at considerable length. And though no one could expect a member of Government to give pledges respecting a measure still on the stocks, we believe there is every prospect that the Lord Advocate will give the suggestions of all parties a candid consideration, and the bill when launched, may be, on the whole, a more liberal one than was anticipated, though it may not be in every respect all that an enlightened public could desire.—*Aberdeen Free Press*.

THE EXPLORATION OF JERUSALEM.—Mr. Grove, the Secretary of the Palestine Exploration Fund, in publishing the substance of two new reports from Lieut. Warren from Jerusalem, dated December 12th and 21st, says:—

As I read Mr. Warren's accounts I seem to feel the ancient city within my grasp—to know for a certainty that its very houses and streets and watercourses, all the ancient life of its structures, its hills and its ravines, is lying buried like some enchanted person beneath that singular and solemn tomb. The cliff (as the Dean of Westminster said in his sermon the other day) which Jacob climbed, the streets which David trod, and along which Athaliah was hurried, the catacomb of the kings of Judah, the very *Vid Dolorosa* itself, of which not even the shadow of a likeness can be found in the upper air of the modern city—all these are doubtless there. Wherever Mr. Warren probes, let him but go deep enough, and he comes on some solid substance of curious and ancient kind. They start into view in a truly magical manner, more like the *Arabian Nights* than anything else. A "stone suddenly rolls away" and reveals staircases, passages, subterranean halls, in the heart of the rock, leading to who knows what repositories of treasure. An almost invisible crevice in the hill turns out to be an enchanted cave 150 feet deep, concealing the "skeleton of an infant," and containing, perhaps, the hidden fountain of the water supply of Jerusalem. The work has been fairly and well begun. An explorer more daring and disinterested, more indefatigable and intelligent, than Mr. Warren seems impossible. Let us back him to the utmost. I am happy to say that the undertaking is relieved from present pecuniary anxieties. But that is no reason for stopping our contributions to a work the extent and importance of which are daily becoming more obvious. The explorations at Jerusalem may be—will be when the fine weather returns—pushed on simultaneously in more places at once, and a larger force of labourers employed. Mr. Warren seems to have gained the confidence of everyone, high and low, Jew and Gentile, and to obtain what labourers he likes, and what permissions he desires. And outside of Jerusalem I hope the public will not forget how much there is to do. There is the natural history of the country to perfect, and the geology to examine, the ethnology to discover.

ANOTHER MISCALCULATION.—Mr. Cardwell has lately at Oxford declared himself favourable to an impartial distribution of Church property in Ireland amongst the Catholics, Protestant Churchmen, and Presbyterians. Mr. Cardwell is a highly respectable person, but not a leading man. He is giving out from what he has taken in from some higher quarter. Earl Russell, it will be remembered, broached this nostrum a short time ago; and it is supposed that his lordship is under the infatuation of believing that this expedient would settle the Irish Church question. The Roman Catholic bishops, it will also be remembered, emphatically repudiated this suggestion. But it is kept before the public; and we noticed that Mr. Gladstone, in his Lancashire speeches, so spoke as not to show any divergence between his views and those enunciated by Earl Russell. We beg the attention of our readers to the state of mind the Whigs are in on this urgent and important subject. They are for peace at any price, and to save a part of the loaf for the Protestant Church would buy off Catholic and Presbyterian malcontents with substantial slices. There is an unaccountable infatuation in this. The country will never submit to the indiscriminate endowment of all religions. The proposition is monstrous. Were the Whigs to propose it, the

Liberal party would be torn into pieces. Sooner any alternative than a transaction so inconsistent and hateful! We can conceive of no position more humiliating than that of a great Protestant State holding out bribes to the Catholic priesthood, and that priesthood indignantly spurning the offer made to corrupt and debase them! It is grievous that popular statesmen should commit themselves to a suicidal policy of this kind. Three times within a period of not many years have the Whig leaders made fatal mistakes. On the Corn Law question they proposed an eight-shilling fixed duty; on Reform they proposed a five-pound rating; and on the Irish Church question they have proposed an extension of ecclesiastical endowments. It would seem as if they were incapable of grasping a principle, and had no genius but for compromises and middle measures. It is time they showed more clearness of vision and more determination of purpose. Their rivals are on the alert, and we have seen more than once that when the Tories do "go," they go full gallop, and stop at no half-way house.—*Norfolk News*.

THE SUNDAY EVENINGS FOR THE PEOPLE.—It will be remembered that in March last the lessee of the establishment known (until its demolition to make way for the erection of the new Queen's Theatre) as St. Martin's Hall, Long-acre, was summoned before Sir Thomas Henry on the charge of keeping a disorderly house. The prosecution was instituted under the act 21 Geo. III., cap. 49, and was brought before the court under four summonses, charging the defendant with having infringed the provisions of the statute, on four occasions, in January and February of that year, by opening a certain house, room, or place, called St. Martin's Hall, on the Lord's Day, called Sunday, for public entertainment or amusement, to which persons were admitted by the payment of money and tickets sold for money. The proceedings referred to the "Sunday Evenings for the People," which had been conducted under the auspices of a society registered under the Toleration Act as the "Recreative Religionists," and giving forth as their object the development and recreation of religious feeling. The prosecution was understood to be instituted by the Lord's Day Observance Society, the information having been laid by Mr. Robert Baxter, the chairman of that body; and it was alleged, though not distinctly admitted, that the Recreative Religionists were intimately associated with the Sunday League. Upon the suggestion of Sir Thomas Henry, it was agreed that the lady, who at the time of the original proceedings was lessee of the hall, should not be harassed by a criminal prosecution, but that the proceedings should go before the superior court upon a case stated; and also that the lady's name should be withdrawn, and that of the President of the Society of Recreative Religionists, Mr. J. Baxter Langley, the leading promoter of the Sunday Evenings for the People, should be substituted. The case was then adjourned *sine die*, in order to allow time for the parties to draw and agree upon a special case, with the understanding that if they could not agree, they should come to Bow-street Police-court, and Sir Thomas Henry would assist them. On Tuesday Mr. Rochford Clarke attended before Sir Thomas Henry, and stated that a case had been drawn on the part of the prosecution, and alterations had been suggested on the part of the defence. The parties had been unable to agree, and were therefore obliged to come to court. The points in dispute between the parties, which were mostly of a formal kind, were then discussed at considerable length, and it was ultimately agreed that Mr. Baxter Langley should be regarded as the defendant, and that in the event of the decision being against him, only one penalty with costs should be imposed. If any fresh difficulty arose, it was to be referred to Sir Thomas Henry.

Religious and Denominational News.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—The second of the special services took place on Sunday night. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there was a very large congregation. The sermon was preached by the Rev. James Moorhouse, incumbent of Puddington, from Acts ix. 11. After the sermon the hymn commencing "Abide with me, fast falls the eventide," was sung with wonderful effect by the vast congregation.

REGENT'S-SQUARE CHURCH.—The Rev. W. Arnot, of Edinburgh, formerly of Glasgow, has been chosen to succeed the late Rev. Dr. James Hamilton, of the Scottish Presbyterian Church, Regent's-square.

WESLEYAN CHAPELS IN LONDON.—At a meeting held last week in the Wesleyan Chapel, Bow-road, Sir F. Lycett presided, and gave some particulars of the work of the Wesleyan Metropolitan Chapel-building Fund, to aid which was the object of the meeting. Twenty-two chapels, he stated, had been erected by means of the help afforded by this fund; 20,000*l.* had been distributed by loans or grants, and the new buildings afforded accommodation for 20,000 persons. In Stratford there were 60,000 inhabitants, and but one Wesleyan chapel.

THE CITY MISSIONARIES.—The New Year's social meeting of the London city missionaries and their wives took place in Freemasons' Hall on Tuesday evening, when they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Williams and Mr. and Mrs. R. C. L. Bevan. A number of other friends were present to join in the welcome given to them. About 400 missionaries were present. Mr. George Williams, who was the president of the evening, addressed the missionaries in very hearty terms, in which he was

followed by Mr. Bevan. Both dwelt specially on the privileges and duties of missionaries' wives, and the aid they might render, whether by prayer or actively in the work. These gentlemen, as the hosts of the evening, were very cordially greeted by their guests. Addresses of a practical and encouraging character followed, from Major Webber Smith, the Rev. Clarmont Skrine, and the Hon. Arthur Kinaird, M.P., the latter of whom dwelt on the tendency of such reunions to promote cordial co-operation of the missionaries and the committee.

ISLINGTON CHAPEL.—A lecture on congregational psalmody was delivered here by Mr. F. H. Rooke, on Monday, January 13, the pastor, the Rev. J. G. Geikie, in the chair. The lecture was of an essentially practical character, consisting, in most part, of an analysis of hymns and remarks on their proper expression and adaptation to particular tunes. The illustrations, which were from the "Congregational Psalmist" (including the additional tunes from "Hymns Ancient and Modern"), were given by a select choir of about forty Tonic Solfa singers without accompaniment, and with very good effect. During the evening a new chant was taught by Mr. Rooke in about five minutes, and sung by the whole congregation with great taste and feeling to the hymn, "My God, my Father, while I stray," the harmonies being filled in by the choir. Mr. Rooke's plans for the improvement of congregational psalmody appeared to interest the audience considerably, and at the conclusion of the lecture a large number of persons took tickets for a short course of psalmody meetings to be held on the following six Monday evenings at Islington Chapel under his direction.

LONDON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—The second anniversary of the London Baptist Association was celebrated on Tuesday by a series of meetings, concluding with an evening meeting, chiefly of a devotional character, in the Metropolitan Tabernacle, which by the hour appointed for commencing was filled to overflowing. The Rev. W. Landels, the president for the ensuing year, was supported by nearly all the Baptist ministers in the metropolis. The Rev. Wm. Brock, who for two years filled the office of president, was prevented from attending by indisposition. He sent a sympathetic letter, which was read to the meeting, and the sentiments in which gave the keynote to many of the prayers and speeches which followed, in which more thorough devotedness to the salvation of others, and more complete oneness in doing the Master's work, were set forth as the great needs of the Church. The Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, in the course of his address, mentioned that in the two years during which this association had existed they had been enabled to build two large and commodious places of worship—one at Holloway and the other at Victoria Park, and that afternoon they had the satisfaction of raising by subscriptions the 300*l.* necessary to clear those buildings from debt. During the ensuing year it was proposed to build a chapel at Clapton. The sum of 1,500*l.* was to be contributed by the association, the friends at Clapton pledging themselves to raise the remaining sum, which would be from 5,000*l.* to 6,000*l.*, so that the Baptists, though comparatively poor and few in numbers, were doing something to meet the wants of this huge city. The members of churches in connection with the association number 23,000, and there had been an increase of 1,200 during the year, of which 370 had been contributed by two churches.

THE REV. W. MAJOR has resigned the pastorate of the Independent Church, Stoke Goldington, Bucks.

THE REV. J. MOFFATT has resigned the pastorate of Townley-street Chapel, Macclesfield, and will terminate his ministry there at the end of the present month.

ABERYSTWYTH.—A few days ago a meeting was held at the Baptist Chapel, Aberystwyth, on the occasion of presenting the Rev. E. Williams, the minister of the place, with a purse of 75*l.* in gold, and a very handsome time-piece. Mr. Williams has been pastor of the church for the last twenty-eight years. The chapel was quite filled, and several ministers of different denominations were present. Addresses were delivered by various ministers.

THE ENGLISH PRESBYTERIANS.—The Rev. Mr. Lundie has just given notice in the Lancashire Presbytery of the English Presbyterian Church that he will submit a motion to the effect that they should aim at a separate union in England, into which English Presbyterians, United Presbyterians, Presbyterians nearly allied to the Established Church of Scotland, and Irish Covenanting congregations, should be merged.

PRESTON.—LANCASTER-ROAD CHAPEL.—The Rev. G. W. Clapham announced recently his resolve to close his ministry in the above place on the last Sabbath in January. Subsequently, the church and congregation very earnestly requested the reverend gentleman to withdraw his resignation; but after most carefully considering the request, he has stated his intention to terminate his seven years' labour in the town at the end of the current month.

PREES, SALOP.—The recognition of the Rev. E. K. Evans took place on Wednesday, January 8th, at Prees, Salop. The opening services were conducted by the Rev. W. Champness, Wem; the Rev. T. Gasquoine, B.A., Oswestry, delivered the introductory discourse; the Rev. D. D. Evans, Bridgnorth, asked the usual questions; the Rev. J. Thornton, Stockport, offered the prayer; the Rev. Professor Newth gave the charge, and the sermon to the people was preached by the Rev. G. Kettle, Shrewsbury.

DEATH OF THE REV. JOHN SCOTT.—The Wesleyan body has lost one of its most prominent ministers by

the death of the Rev. John Scott. For a long series of years Mr. Scott has held one of the foremost places in the Connexion, and has filled most of its important offices, amongst others that of president of the Conference. During the last few years he has been president of the Wesleyan Training College at Westminster, which becomes vacant by his death. He was seventy-six years of age. The death of Mr. Scott took place at the house of his son-in-law, Mr. J. J. Lidgett, at Blackheath. The interment was to take place at Norwood Cemetery yesterday.

DONATION TO HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARIES.—Through the liberality of several generous friends, a most acceptable and serviceable gift has just been presented to the home and foreign missionaries of the various evangelical denominations in England and Scotland, and the agents of the London Missionary Society, and other religious associations, who, to the number of 1,300, have already been supplied with copies of the new and enlarged edition of "Words of Comfort for Parents Bereaved of Little Children," edited by Mr. Wm. Logan, Glasgow. Eleven thousand of this useful work have now been issued.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER was observed by the Free Churches of Hastings and St. Leonards, in an interesting and impressive series of united prayer-meetings at the following times and places:—Monday evening, Wellington-square Baptist Chapel, Rev. W. Barker. Tuesday morning, Robertson-street Congregational Chapel, Rev. J. Griffin; Tuesday evening, St. Leonards Congregational Church, Rev. A. Reed, B.A.; and Hastings, Wesleyan Chapel, Rev. G. Lester. Wednesday evening, Presbyterian Church, Silverhill, the Rev. — Pattison, M.A.; and Croft Congregational Chapel, Hastings, the Rev. Halley Stewart. Thursday evening, Wesleyan Chapel, St. Leonards, the Rev. W. Talbot; and Primitive Methodist Chapel, Hastings, the Rev. — Hunt. Friday evening, Memorial Chapel, Hastings, United Baptist and Independent, the Rev. J. C. Fishbourne; and Primitive Methodist Chapel, Bohemia, the Rev. — Holland. The meetings were well attended, and characterised by a spirit of unity and devout earnestness.

PASTORAL CALLS.—The Rev. William Thomas Blenkarn, of Nottingham College, has received and accepted a very cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Watton, Norfolk, and will commence his duties on Sunday, the 26th inst.—The Rev. A. Warner has accepted a unanimous invitation to Whitfield Chapel, Drury-lane.—The Rev. John Thomas, late of Chesham, having received an almost unanimous invitation to the Congregational church at St. John's-wood-terrace, has accepted the same; and commenced his ministry on Sunday, January 5th.—The Rev. T. Harley, of the Baptist Chapel, Ayat-street, Derby, is about to leave this country to take the oversight of a large and influential church in St. John's, New Brunswick.—The Rev. R. G. Harper, of Fetter-lane Chapel, has accepted an invitation to Kingsfield Congregational Chapel, Southampton. A few evenings since he was presented, at a meeting in Fetter-lane, with a purse of sovereigns, and Mrs. Harper two valuable volumes of music, together with several handsome presents from the young persons of the congregation. Several gentlemen expressed the gratitude they felt for the good they had received under the Rev. R. G. Harper's preaching, and their high appreciation of his ministerial and private character.—The Rev. G. L. Turner, M.A., late of Chesham College, to the church and congregation at Melford, Suffolk.

IDLE, NEAR BRADFORD.—In connection with the Independent chapel in this village, of which the Rev. S. Dyson is the pastor, a schoolroom has just been erected at a cost of 1,350*l.* It is intended for a day-school, with Government inspection and grants, and for a Sunday-school likewise. The public opening took place on Wednesday, when the Rev. E. Mellor, M.A., Halifax, preached. A tea-meeting followed, attended by some 700 persons. The Mayor of Bradford (Mr. Law) presided, and said that he was himself greatly interested in all day-school operations, and had long taken deep interest in them. He was on no less than four different day-school committees, and had been in correspondence with the Privy Council about two of them, and therefore knew something of the working of day-schools. A vast amount of good had been done by the day and Sunday-schools, but much more required to be accomplished. We, in England, prided ourselves upon the advantages which we possess, but we still had very much to learn, and it behoved them all to put their shoulders to the wheel, and see that the children were much better educated than the men and women of the present generation. He thought it was a very good thing to see both day and Sunday-schools united in the same way that they were united in that building. After practical addresses by the Revs. Dr. Fraser and Dr. Russell, Mr. Mellor recommended the adoption of singing classes, which would, in his estimation, tend to counteract the prevailing temptations, and meet the public taste. He should like to hear of regular concerts being established in connection with that building. If we wished to prevent people from going to bad places of amusement, such as the theatres and public-houses, we must provide them with suitable amusements; and he thought that the singing classes would admirably answer that purpose at Idle. He would rather himself go to such a concert than to an evening party, where, as was too often the case, scandal was the leading element of the conversation. Addresses were also delivered by the Revs. J. Aston, C. Illingworth, E. Ollerenshaw, T. T. Waterman, and Mr. J. Hill. A subscription of 100*l.* from the Messrs. Crossley, Halifax, was announced. The subscriptions exceed 1,000*l.*

Correspondence.

"BARCLAY'S APOLOGY."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I was much interested in the article in your last week's paper on Barclay's Apology, and thought it possible that you might not be aware, as very few in the Society of Friends are, that in all subsequent editions to the fifth a few lines have been left out, which have an important bearing upon the great question which is forcing itself upon the attention of thinking men of all classes, viz., the position of the Established Church as connected with the State.

In the early editions of this work, up to the fifth inclusive, proposition 10, section 32, last paragraph, after the words, "forced maintenance and stipend"—"and seeing these things were anciently given by the people, that they return again into the public treasure; and thereby the people may be greatly benefited by them, for that they may supply for those public taxations and impositions that are put upon them, and may ease themselves of them." Then follow the words, "And whoever call," &c.

Why this has been left out in the later editions we must leave.

I am, respectfully,
A CONSTANT READER.

January 6, 1868.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

In the Legislative Body on Monday, M. Gressier, the reporter of the committee, announced that, in conformity with the wishes of the Chamber, the committee consented to the suppression of the right of procuring substitutes in the National Garde Mobile. This decision was ratified by a large majority, and Art. 13 was adopted. Marshal Niel, in reply to M. Garnier-Pagès, said that the new bill would not entail any additional expense for the regular army. The National Garde Mobile, he added, would only be organised by degrees. The fourteenth article was adopted by 197 to 47 votes, and on Tuesday the whole bill was passed by 199 to 60. The Chamber, having passed to the order of the day on M. Lanjuinais' interpellation on the cemeteries of Paris, on the law of the press, and on the right of meeting, adjourned till the 27th inst.

The *France* repeats the report that there has been an exchange of the most friendly courtesies between the Emperor Napoleon and the King of Prussia.

M. Magné's financial statement will be published in a few days.

The *Constitutionnel*, *Débats*, *Opinions Nationales*, *Temps*, *l'Avenir National*, *Journal de Paris*, *Union*, *Sidèle*, *Intérêt Public*, and the *Flaneur*, are to be cited before the Correctional Police for having published illegal reports of the proceedings in the Legislature. No case was established against the other journals summoned.

A new pamphlet (a very small one) has appeared in Paris under the title of "La Papauté et l'Italie; de la Nécessité d'un Congrès." The object of the writer, who is a partisan of Italian unity, is to show that it is a mistake to suppose that because M. Rouher declared that Italy should "never" absorb Rome a congress is become unnecessary. Having obtained her unity by a concourse of un hoped-for circumstances, the greatest fault which Italy could commit is to maintain her pretensions to Rome in despite of the most sacred rights, and only for the benefit of revolutionists, who, when they overthrew the Papacy, would infallibly attempt the destruction of the Italian monarchy itself. In no way is this little enclave, called the Pontifical States, an obstruction to Italian unity. In a material point of view it is inconsistent with common sense to choose as a centre of administration for a great nation a petty territory from which the malaria drives three-fourths of the inhabitants four months of the year. In a moral point of view, the absorption of these States would raise against the Italian Government all Catholicity, would outrage the religious sentiments of its own population, and would endanger the unity which they desire to consolidate. In a strategic point of view, a modern capital situated too near the sea is exposed to peril. The Paris correspondent of the *Times* hears that the author of this pamphlet is no less a person than General Montebello, who commanded the French troops at Rome for five years; and as General Montebello is *aide-de-camp* to the Emperor, it is probable that it has been written and published with his Majesty's assent and approval.

The French occupation of the Roman States is to be extended beyond Civita Vecchia. According to the *Constitutionnel* this step has become necessary in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining lodgment for the troops at Civita Vecchia, and it has been decided therefore to send a moiety of the effective strength to Viterbo, one of the principal points near the Italian frontier. The Italian Government, it says, was informed of this decision, and perfectly appreciated the motive and recognised its necessity. We are told that the French frigate *l'Orenoque* arrived at Civita Vecchia on the 10th with material for the artillery, and the *Nations* of the 11th says that the artillery materials thus brought consist of cannon and mortars for the fortifications of Rome and Civita Vecchia.

According to the *Patrie*, the negotiations carried on since January 1 between France and Prussia relative to the recent events in Italy, have led to a more

intimate understanding between the two Governments. It is hoped that Italy will accept an agreement, the result of which would be a return to the normal state of the September Convention.

Advices from various parts of France speak of the great misery of the poorer classes. The *Avenir National* says that the accounts from the north, centre, and south are deplorable. The general disquiet occasioned by the uncertainty of the Government policy, and augmented by divers circumstances in which politics do not much enter, paralyses industry and commerce.

AUSTRIA.

The delegates from the Hungarian Diet and the Austrian Reichsrath, to meet at Vienna on the 19th. Baron von Beust is having bills drawn up to be submitted to the delegates.

The remains of the Emperor Maximilian, escorted by an Austrian squadron, have arrived at Pola, and an imposing public funeral is to take place this day.

The army is to be considerably reduced, and promotion will be limited till 1870.

ITALY.

The Minister of the Interior has issued a circular to the prefects on the internal policy of the Government in which he says:—

Italy did not accomplish her great and pacific revolution to perpetuate revolution or to reap such fruit from it. She wishes to cement and render fruitful her precious conquests. She requires security and tranquillity to be able to develop that internal activity which alone can make her powerful, happy, and respected. She is justly proud and jealous of her unity and her liberty, but on that very account she demands that the Government, while keeping within the bounds of the strictest legality, shall make itself be respected by all, that it shall employ no illegal influence, and prove by facts that it has a resolute will, authority, and power to govern and strengthen its action. To attain this object it is only necessary that the existing laws should be carried out. On this sole condition can the liberty of all be assured and guaranteed; nor can the unity of Italy otherwise obtain that culmination to which the country unanimously aspires.

In conclusion, the Minister confidently relies upon the support of the prefects, and believes that his antecedents in public life will secure their cordial co-operation. He alludes to his former efforts in Parliament to promote administrative decentralisation and to increase the sphere of action and the authority of the prefects. The Government will efficaciously support the prefects in maintaining the respect for the law and moral principles.

At the reassembling of the Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday, Signor Ratazzi complained of the inaccuracy and incompleteness of the documents recently published relative to the Garibaldian movement. He presented twenty-six telegraphic despatches, the publication of which he demanded. Some personal explanations followed between General Menabrea and Signori Mari and Ratazzi. The publication of the despatches was approved by the Chamber.

A correspondent from Rome, writing to the *Journal des Débats*, states that the French Ambassador, M. de Sartiges, has told Cardinal Antonelli that Napoleon III., in taking the Holy See under his protection, did not intend to uphold a reactionary and a retrograde Government, but a liberal and a progressive one; that it was time the wishes of the people were complied with, granting them at last those political and administrative reforms so often promised and so often postponed.

It is said that the Piedmontese section of members, disquieted by the state of affairs, is willing to support the Government.

It is officially stated also that the Government "asked explanations from the French Cabinet after M. Rouher's speech on the Roman question, and that the Imperial Government made an answer such as completely to satisfy the Italian Ministry."

The Italian Government, revoking a decision which provoked vehement protests, has now, it is said, agreed to go on paying its quota of the interest of the Pontifical debt, and the French Government has consented to the emission of an Italian loan in Paris.

General Cialdini has resigned the post of Italian Minister to the Court of Austria, which had been conferred upon him some months ago.

The sale of the ecclesiastical property continues to proceed most satisfactorily. The sales effected up to the 31st ult. had produced an increase of 43 per cent. on the valuations.

AMERICA.

We learn by Atlantic cable that the Senate having decided in favour of the reinstatement of Mr. Stanton, General Grant has vacated the War Office, and Mr. Stanton has resumed possession.

General Meade, commander of the Third Military District, has removed Mr. Jenkins from the governorship of Georgia, and has appointed General Dunn in his place. Mr. Jenkins has appealed to Mr. Johnson for protection. The President has assigned General T. W. Sherman (not Lieut.-General Sherman) to succeed General Meade. General Hancock has appointed Mr. Joshua Baker, a prominent Conservative, Governor of Louisiana, in place of Mr. Flanders, who has resigned.

The House of Representatives has rejected the bill passed by the Senate abolishing the tax upon the cotton crop of 1868.

Governor Bullock, of Massachusetts, in his inaugural message, advocated the nomination of General Grant to the Presidency, irrespective of party. The Washington section of the Grand Army of the Republic has also nominated General Grant.

The negroes in the South celebrated the anniversary of emancipation on the 1st with great enthusiasm.

The *New York Herald* states that if the Supreme Court should render decisions in the test cases now before it adverse to the enforcement of the Reconstruction Act provisions on the grounds of unconstitutionality, the President will at once order district commanders to be governed by such decisions.

The *New York Tribune* has a despatch from Washington, which states that, notwithstanding the abrupt termination of the Alabama claims correspondence between Lord Stanley and Secretary Seward, information has been received there that Mr. Thornton, the new British Minister, goes out empowered with full authority to reopen the question, and will present for the consideration of the United States a new plan of adjustment.

General Howard proposes to distribute eight millions dollars surplus funds from the Freedmen's Bureau among the destitute people of the South.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Marshal Niel has constituted a military mission to follow the British army in Abyssinia.

M. Berryer, the father of the French Bar, has just entered his seventy-ninth year.

The Pope has this year sent to the Queen of Spain the golden rose, which he blessed, as usual, at the mass, on Twelfth Day.

General Count Ladislas Zamoycki, one of the most distinguished members of the Polish emigration, has just died at Paris.

The *Montreal Canadian* states that Lord Monck has received instructions to remain in Canada another year, Lord Naas, who was to succeed him, remaining in Ireland.

The Earl of Clarendon had a long audience of the Pope on New Year's Day, and left, with all his family, on the following day for Naples. His lordship saw several of the cardinals before his departure.

Prince Frederick of Augustenburg is stated to have formally expressed a desire to be reconciled with the King of Prussia, and to renounce his pretensions to the sovereignty of Schleswig-Holstein, in consideration of receiving a suitable appanage.

The largest share of emigration from the continent of Europe to America continues to be from Germany. In 1867 no fewer than 74,000 persons left Bremen for the New World, the greater number of whom were from Bohemia and the Eastern provinces of Prussia.

At the last State ball at Paris, the object of attention was a negro general, the splendour of whose uniform excelled that of his European brethren. On inquiry he proved to be the late President of Hayti. Two young Japanese ladies were likewise among the novelties of the evening.

FENIAN BABIES IN AMERICA.—It is actually asserted, as a fact significant of the adoration of the Irish for the Manchester prisoners, that two-thirds of the Irish babies now baptized in Philadelphia receive the Christian names of Allen, Gould, and Larkin.

THE ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS continues to be serious. Lava is slowly accumulating in the direction of Torre del Greco. The stream of lava is from seven to eight metres high, and from fifty to sixty broad. Shocks and detonations are frequent, and it is not likely that the eruption will soon cease.

THE FAMINE IN ALGERIA.—The *Avenir National* says it has received from a correspondent in Algeria most afflicting accounts of the progress of the famine in that country. The dead, it says, are so numerous, that they are thrown into trenches as on the day after a battle.

Count de Goltz, Prussian Ambassador at Paris, was operated on by Dr. Nélaton on Saturday for a tumour on the inside of the lip. He was chloroformed, and, notwithstanding, had to be held, it is said, by three strong men. Everything, however, was effected most successfully, and the patient is going on favourably.

SENATOR SUMNER and his wife, it is stated by the *Home Journal*, have finally agreed on a permanent separation. The ground alleged is "the certainty—discovered only too late—that there exists between the parties an incompatibility of temperament and opinion on certain social questions, which precludes the possibility of their living happily together as man and wife."

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.—*Galignani* has the following telegram from Berlin:—"Count de Bismarck, at a hunting banquet at Barby, has made a speech to a large company of notables. He said that the spectre of a war with France was a pure phantasm, and he invited all present to have no anxiety on this subject."

An extraordinary phenomenon is reported from Niagara Falls. A strong wind so pressed back the waters of Lake Erie that the waters of the falls fell twenty feet. The American fall could be passed on foot. A great many curious and unsuspected rocks and holes were revealed, and the pit below the falls presented a wonderful appearance. Such a decline of the waters have never been known before.

AN IMPERIAL PUPIL.—The French Prince Imperial is first for calculation in this class of the Lycée Bonaparte. One of the professors attends twice a day at the palace, and thus the Prince follows precisely the college course, and does the same work as his fellow students at the Lycée. This is the first time the result has been published. The class consists of forty boys of every possible rank, from the sons of butchers and tailors to that of the Emperor.

GENERAL GRANT.—I doubt if any candidate has ever before been so unmistakably, and with so near an approach to unanimity, selected by the public before the nominating convention met; and yet he rigidly holds his tongue. So many political nostrums

have been tried, and tried in vain, that people turn with a sense of relief to a man who has no nostrum to offer, or anything else, than character and past services.—*Correspondent of Daily News.*

JAMAICA.—The second session of the Jamaica Legislature was opened on the 16th of December by Sir John P. Grant, without the usual address. The deficiency of the revenue, 56,000*l.*, will involve on addition of ten per cent. at the Custom-house and a tax on dogs, &c. In consequence of a threatening letter, the Rev. T. Cook, rector of St. Thomas-in-the-East, in Morant Bay, spent his Christmas in Kingston.

THE FIRST PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENTS of the new provinces of Quebec and Ontario, in Canada, have been opened. The Ontario Parliament was opened on the 27th of December, at Toronto, by Lieutenant-Governor Sturges, and John Stevenson, M.P. for Lennox, was unanimously chosen Speaker of the House. The Quebec Parliament was opened the same day at Quebec by Lieutenant-Governor Belleau, and Colonel Blanchett was elected Speaker of the House.

THE FAMINE IN EAST PRUSSIA is reaching a deplorable height. It extends over a tract of country inhabited by 1,250,000 people, a very considerable portion of whom are destitute of the most ordinary necessities of life. In some parts the sufferers, a large proportion of whom seem to be Lithuanians, have been terrified by the appearance of a malignant typhus, the result of starvation or a long-continued course of bad food. From Berlin daily trains with fuel and provisions are despatched to the afflicted districts, but as yet without any visible alleviation of the calamity. The charitable munificence of the middle classes is very great.

EARL RUSSELL AND SIR JAMES HUDSON.—Sir James Hudson writes from Florence to a contemporary to state that, having read a letter signed "R." in the impression of the 4th inst., he begs to assure the editor that the facts connected with his retirement from her Majesty's mission at Turin are in that letter not in accordance with fact. "Earl Russell expressed a wish to appoint Sir James to the embassy at Constantinople, which he, from motives of health, considered it his duty to the Crown to decline. Earl Russell deemed those grounds sufficient, and permitted Sir James to retire upon the pension due to his rank."

SHOCKING ICE ACCIDENT.—A terrible catastrophe is reported from Mantes (Seine-et-Oise), in which nineteen persons have lost their lives. Three days back a countryman, named Fouchet, laid a wager that he would drive a heavily laden hay wagon across the Seine on the ice. When half way over the vehicle stopped, and twenty-eight persons went to the aid of the driver. Suddenly the ice gave way under the weight, and all were swallowed up. Two boatmen, Bourdet Pinagues and Hottot, succeeded in saving nine persons, but the others were drowned. Among the victims was M. Canat, the Mayor of Porcheville.

NICE PLACES TO LIVE IN.—We learn by the West Indian mail that at St. Thomas shocks of earthquake were still felt, and on the 29th December and following days they were of such severity as to keep the inhabitants in a state of great anxiety. Commercial affairs, in consequence remained unsettled. The harbour was in a fearful state, the water being more putrid than ever. This arose from the number of sunken vessels containing provisions. The slightest movement caused the most offensive exhalations, and it was feared that serious sickness would result unless the evil could be remedied. The *New York Tribune* writes:—"What a lovely spot for a residence Memphis must be! On Christmas-day a policeman was killed by a drunken party whom he was endeavouring to arrest. Another stray shot killed a German lad of seventeen; one negro boy was killed by another, and our despatch concludes by stating, with charming frankness, that 'some dozen persons, mostly negroes, were accidentally shot during the day by the promiscuous firing of pistols loaded with ball.' No doubt the 'promiscuous' feature of the day's sport was especially amusing when a negro or two came temptingly near."

MR. CHARLES DICKENS.—Mr. Charles Dickens's welcome in New York is as enthusiastic as ever, and all the seats for every reading now announced are sold. He can crowd the largest halls in the country for an interminable period with admiring listeners, and were he to stay five years in America, it is said he could earn at least 8,000 *dols.* net profit every week. Mr. Dickens himself is pleased with the welcome given him, and says it has surprised his most extravagant expectations. He is, it is stated, overwhelmed with requests for his autograph. He deals with them summarily, however. Applicants receive a printed answer, saying, "To comply with your modest request would not be reasonably possible." It is said that to envelope, direct, and mail these replies, the services of three secretaries are constantly required. At New York, on the last night of the old year, Mr. Dickens read "David Copperfield" and "Bob Sawyer's Party" to a large and brilliant audience. At the close, Mr. Dickens stepped to the front, and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I wish you, from my heart of hearts, a happy, happy new year." This is the only speech Mr. Dickens has made in America.

DISTRESS IN FINLAND.—The Society of Friends are now raising funds amongst themselves and their neighbours for the relief of the famine-stricken Finlanders, who are suffering dreadful hardships. The harvest throughout the Grand Duchy of Finland has this year been a perfect failure, and no words can describe the misery, suffering, and sickness at present prevailing from one end of the province to the other. Iceland-moss, pine-tree bark, and pease-

straw, ground up together, and mixed with a little flour, is the only food wherewith the mother can now feed her child, and the only food on which thousands will be dependent for many months to come. A long and dreary winter has set in, with all its rigour, and it is truly heartrending to see whole families driven from their homes by famine and despair, wandering from place to place, half dead with cold, and in search of food and work, but finding neither. Severe frosts, which set in just before the last harvest, froze up the corn standing in the fields; and as very little had been cut, and that unripe, there is the most terrible failure of the harvest that has been experienced within living memory. The two preceding harvests had also been poor ones. Famine and death are the inevitable consequences. The Russian Government is making exertions for the relief of the starving multitudes, and the English residents in St. Petersburg have nobly responded to appeals for their assistance. But all this aid is wholly insufficient for the terrible necessity. Hence the English Friends are seeking to send succour from this country. Mr. Wilson Sturge (of J. and C. Sturge and Co.), Birmingham, will gladly receive contributions for this object.

COLOUR LEGISLATION.—An Ohio paper relates an incident that lately occurred in Muskingham County, which illustrates as clearly as possible one of the absurdities of colour legislation. Among a large number of coloured persons in that county, who form a well-to-do community by themselves, was one mulatto, whose children bear no outward evidence of being descendants of the patriarch whom Noah cursed. As these people paid a large amount of money in taxes for the support of schools, without enjoying any of the benefits, the mulatto referred to determined to test the question by sending his children to school. Of course there was great indignation in the village, and a committee of the school directors of the county was sent to the school to expel the intruders. The teacher refused to point out the individuals who had disturbed the peace of the school by their unwelcome presence. She had no complaint to make against them, and was willing they should remain. The committee selected three who, they thought, bore the strongest evidence of belonging to the proscribed race, and ignominiously expelled them. The scandal was great when it was discovered on the next day that the children of three of the wealthiest white men were the victims of the movement against negroes. The ludicrous result of this raid was the establishment of schools for "coloured" children, and the exemption of the wealthy negroes from further contributions to the education of their poor white neighbours.—*Boston Advertiser.*

DEATH OF M. ATHANASE COQUEREL, OF PARIS.—M. Athanase-Laurent-Charles Coquerel, who died on Friday in Paris, was well known as an eminent member and pastor of the French Protestant Church. He was seventy-two years of age. He was connected with England and English literature through his aunt, Miss Helena Williams, who undertook the care of his early education. After he became a pastor, in 1816, he was offered an incumbency in the Episcopal Church in Jersey, which he refused because he could not sign the Anglican confession of faith. He went to Holland, and for twelve years he ministered and preached in the Calvinistic churches of Utrecht, Amsterdam, and Leyden. He returned to France in 1830, and became a member of the Protestant Consistory in 1833. In consequence of the liberal opinions which he put forward, he was accused by the more rigid members of the French Protestant Church of abandoning the doctrines of exclusive faith and predestination. The result was a split amongst the members of the body, M. Coquerel being considered the leader of what may be regarded as the liberal Christian section, while M. Guizot was the prominent chief of the traditional orthodox Calvinists. After the revolution of 1848 Mr. Coquerel was elected member of the French Assembly for the Seine. His votes and eloquence, which was great, were always at the service of the Republic, but after the *coup d'état* he retired from politics. M. Coquerel was the author of several works, many of which have been translated into English, German, and Dutch.—*Express.*

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH IN AUSTRALIA.—A Melbourne letter of November 27 gives interesting details of the reception of the Duke at Melbourne. The *Galatea* arrived on the previous Saturday, and was received with a magnificent naval display. For the Sunday his Royal Highness remained on board. Monday came, and all Melbourne and the suburbs were astir from an early hour. Every train brought in its quota of volunteers or school-children, or Free Gardeners, or Rechabites, or Oddfellows, or Ancient Druids, to join those of the city and suburbs in the procession from Sandridge to Melbourne. At twelve o'clock precisely the Duke, accompanied by Lord Newry and the Hon. Mr. Yerke, landed at the railway pier of Sandridge. He was received by a military guard of honour, and by the Governor, the Ministry, and the members of the Reception Commission, at the landing-place. After receiving and responding to an address from the Mayor and Corporation of Sandridge, the Duke was escorted to an open carriage provided for him by the Governor, and drawn by four fine bays; and so, accompanied by his suite, commenced his progress of two miles to Melbourne. A long procession, consisting of members of the Government, of the Commission, of the Victorian Volunteer mounted troopers, and many voluntary societies, accompanied him to the Treasury. In the large open space before this building, and extending a long way down Collins-street, were assembled a vast number of well-dressed and prosperous-looking people, variously estimated at from 40,000 to 60,000

in number. Here the Duke received addresses from the two Houses of Parliament, amid the acclamations of a crowd declared by his Royal Highness to be one of the most orderly and well-conducted he had ever seen. At the conclusion of the ceremonial at the Treasury, he, with his suite, accompanied Sir Henry Manners Sutton to Government House, where the Duke will be domiciled during his stay at Melbourne. On the following day, the 26th inst., he held a *levée* at the New Exhibition building, at which about double the number of persons usually attending such ceremonials, and many addresses from public bodies, were presented to his Royal Highness. Nearly two hours elapsed before the work showed any signs of coming to an end. So the Duke, looking slightly fatigued, withdrew for a few moments, attended by the Governor and suite, to a private room for some refreshment, and, after about ten minutes' interval, returned to continue the receptions. The lower portion of the vast hall (in its entire length from end to end longer than Westminster Hall) and the galleries were occupied by ladies, who sat out the ceremonial until the withdrawal of the principal attraction. In the evening the city and suburbs were brilliantly illuminated, and the streets were crowded with their tens of thousands, so vast a number of persons never having been seen congregated together in Melbourne since the existence of the colony. Not a single person was put into the lock-up that night for misbehaviour. Next day the Duke attended a cricket-match, and in the evening he was the Governor's guest at a grand ball given by him in the Great Exhibition building. Other entertainments in rapid succession are to come off in town and country. While the ball to the Prince was proceeding, a number of Irishmen were getting up a row about an "Orange" transparency at the Protestant Hall. It commenced in an attempt to destroy the transparency, and the assailants were fired upon from the building. One man was shot—it is said mortally—and three others were wounded.

FENIANISM.

The prisoners charged with wilful murder at the outrage at Clerkenwell Prison were re-examined at Bow-street on Monday. Evidence was adduced to show that Burke was aware of something to be attempted in the nature of an explosion, and that he expected it on the preceding day. It further appeared that a barrel was brought on that day to the wall just in the same way as that which was exploded next day. The police have also discovered whence some, at least, of the explosive material was obtained, but the chain of circumstances in respect to that matter is yet incomplete. It appears that a man ordered 200*lb.* of blasting powder on the 4th of December at Curtis and Harvey's, Lombard-street, which was delivered as requested on the 6th, in four barrels, at a greengrocer's shop kept by a Mrs. Martin, in the neighbourhood of Golden-square. One barrel was left there, and the purchase money, 3*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, paid by a man who called himself Smith. Another man with a truck took the other three barrels, and conveyed them elsewhere. A good many surrounding details were narrated, but who Mrs. Martin and Smith are did not transpire; neither was the powder traced further, the counsel for the prosecution at that point asking for another remand, which was granted. O'Keefe is now added to the number of the prisoners against whom the charge of "wilful murder" is preferred. A man named Richard Wills gave evidence that on the day before the explosion he saw two men with a barrel on a truck, the latter having painted on it the words "To let," at the spot where the prison wall was afterwards blown down. He believed that O'Keefe was one of the men. Further evidence was called to show that O'Keefe was present at the spot where the explosion took place. The prisoners were again remanded.

On Monday Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., made an application in the Court of Queen's Bench, before the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Blackburn and Lush, for a rule *nisi*, to show cause why a writ of *certiorari* should not issue to remove the trial of Burke from Warwick to London. He moved on three grounds: First, that on account of the recent religious disturbances connected with Irishmen in Warwickshire, it is not desirable that the prisoner be tried by a jury coming from that county; secondly, that as a majority of the witnesses live in London, Liverpool, and Ireland, the extreme poverty of the prisoner would make it more difficult for him to conduct his defence in Warwickshire; and thirdly, that Burke wishes to make his selection of counsel from the whole bar and not from the Midland circuit only, to which he would be restricted if tried in the midland county. An animated conversation then took place between the justices and Mr. Coleridge. Justice Lush said that even should the application be granted, the witnesses would have to be sent to Warwick, because it is only after the indictment has been found that it can be removed, and Mr. Justice Blackburn appeared to think little of Burke's difficulties on this ground. But the sting of the application seemed to be in its tail. Burke was anxious to have the best counsel Mr. Coleridge said, because, he being a naturalised American subject, a question might be raised as to the composition of the jury. "What question can be raised?" said Justice Blackburn in his haste; "he has no more pretence for saying that than any other Englishman accused of any other crime." "Your lordship appears to have already decided the point without hearing me," replied Mr. Coleridge, sweetly. "Only one member of the court has expressed an opinion on the point," said the Lord Chief Justice, coming to the rescue of his discomfited brother. The application was ultimately postponed for the conside-

Correspondence.

"BARCLAY'S APOLOGY."

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I was much interested in the article in your last week's paper on Barclay's Apology, and thought it possible that you might not be aware, as very few in the Society of Friends are, that in all subsequent editions to the fifth a few lines have been left out, which have an important bearing upon the great question which is forcing itself upon the attention of thinking men of all classes, viz., the position of the Established Church as connected with the State.

In the early editions of this work, up to the fifth inclusive, proposition 10, section 32, last paragraph, after the words, "forced maintenance and stipend"—"and seeing those things were anciently given by the people, that they return again into the public treasure; and thereby the people may be greatly benefited by them, for that they may supply for those public taxations and impositions that are put upon them, and may ease themselves of them." Then follow the words, "And whoever call," &c.

Why this has been left out in the later editions we must leave.

I am, respectfully,
A CONSTANT READER.

January 6, 1868.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

In the Legislative Body on Monday, M. Gressier, the reporter of the committee, announced that, in conformity with the wishes of the Chamber, the committee consented to the suppression of the right of procuring substitutes in the National Garde Mobile. This decision was ratified by a large majority, and Art. 13 was adopted. Marshal Niel, in reply to M. Garnier-Pagès, said that the new bill would not entail any additional expense for the regular army. The National Garde Mobile, he added, would only be organised by degrees. The fourteenth article was adopted by 197 to 47 votes, and on Tuesday the whole bill was passed by 199 to 80. The Chamber, having passed to the order of the day on M. Lanjuinais' interpellation on the cemeteries of Paris, on the law of the press, and on the right of meeting, adjourned till the 27th inst.

The *France* repeats the report that there has been an exchange of the most friendly courtesies between the Emperor Napoleon and the King of Prussia.

M. Magné's financial statement will be published in a few days.

The *Constitutionnel*, *Débats*, *Opinion Nationale*, *Temps*, *L'Avenir National*, *Journal de Paris*, *Union*, *Sidèle*, *Intérêt Public*, and the *Fleur*, are to be cited before the Correctional Police for having published illegal reports of the proceedings in the Legislature. No case was established against the other journals summoned.

A new pamphlet (a very small one) has appeared in Paris under the title of "La Papauté et l'Italie; de la Nécessité d'un Congrès." The object of the writer, who is a partisan of Italian unity, is to show that it is a mistake to suppose that because M. Rouher declared that Italy should "never" absorb Rome a congress is become unnecessary. Having obtained her unity by a concourse of unhoped-for circumstances, the greatest fault which Italy could commit is to maintain her pretensions to Rome in despite of the most sacred rights, and only for the benefit of revolutionists, who, when they overthrew the Papacy, would infallibly attempt the destruction of the Italian monarchy itself. In no way is this little enclave, called the Pontifical States, an obstruction to Italian unity. In a material point of view it is inconsistent with common sense to choose as a centre of administration for a great nation a petty territory from which the malaria drives three-fourths of the inhabitants four months of the year. In a moral point of view, the absorption of these States would raise against the Italian Government all Catholicity, would outrage the religious sentiments of its own population, and would endanger the unity which they desire to consolidate. In a strategic point of view, a modern capital situated too near the sea is exposed to peril. The Paris correspondent of the *Times* hears that the author of this pamphlet is no less a person than General Montebello, who commanded the French troops at Rome for five years; and as General Montebello is *aide-de-camp* to the Emperor, it is probable that it has been written and published with his Majesty's assent and approval.

The French occupation of the Roman States is to be extended beyond Civita Vecchia. According to the *Constitutionnel* this step has become necessary in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining lodgment for the troops at Civita Vecchia, and it has been decided therefore to send a moiety of the effective strength to Viterbo, one of the principal points near the Italian frontier. The Italian Government, it says, was informed of this decision, and perfectly appreciated the motive and recognised its necessity. We are told that the French frigate *l'Orenoque* arrived at Civita Vecchia on the 10th with material for the artillery, and the *Nations* of the 11th says that the artillery materials thus brought consist of cannon and mortars for the fortifications of Rome and Civita Vecchia.

According to the *Patrie*, the negotiations carried on since January 1 between France and Prussia relative to the recent events in Italy, have led to a more

intimate understanding between the two Governments. It is hoped that Italy will accept an agreement, the result of which would be a return to the normal state of the September Convention.

Advices from various parts of France speak of the great misery of the poorer classes. The *Avenir National* says that the accounts from the north, centre, and south are deplorable. The general disquiet occasioned by the uncertainty of the Government policy, and augmented by divers circumstances in which politics do not much enter, paralyses industry and commerce.

AUSTRIA.

The delegates from the Hungarian Diet and the Austrian Reichsrath, to meet at Vienna on the 19th. Baron von Beust is having bills drawn up to be submitted to the delegates.

The remains of the Emperor Maximilian, escorted by an Austrian squadron, have arrived at Pola, and an imposing public funeral is to take place this day.

The army is to be considerably reduced, and promotion will be limited till 1870.

ITALY.

The Minister of the Interior has issued a circular to the prefects on the internal policy of the Government in which he says:—

Italy did not accomplish her great and pacific revolution to perpetuate revolution or to reap such fruit from it. She wishes to cement and render fruitful her precious conquests. She requires security and tranquillity to be able to develop that internal activity which alone can make her powerful, happy, and respected. She is justly proud and jealous of her unity and her liberty, but on that very account she demands that the Government, while keeping within the bounds of the strictest legality, shall make itself be respected by all, that it shall employ no illegal influence, and prove by facts that it has a resolute will, authority, and power to govern and strengthen its action. To attain this object it is only necessary that the existing laws should be carried out. On this sole condition can the liberty of all be assured and guaranteed; nor can the unity of Italy otherwise obtain that culmination to which the country unanimously aspires.

In conclusion, the Minister confidently relies upon the support of the prefects, and believes that his antecedents in public life will secure their cordial co-operation. He alludes to his former efforts in Parliament to promote administrative decentralisation and to increase the sphere of action and the authority of the prefects. The Government will efficaciously support the prefects in maintaining the respect for the law and moral principles.

At the reassembling of the Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday, Signor Ratazzi complained of the inaccuracy and incompleteness of the documents recently published relative to the Garibaldian movement. He presented twenty-six telegraphic despatches, the publication of which he demanded. Some personal explanations followed between General Menabrea and Signori Mari and Ratazzi. The publication of the despatches was approved by the Chamber.

A correspondent from Rome, writing to the *Journal des Débats*, states that the French Ambassador, M. de Sartiges, has told Cardinal Antonelli that Napoleon III., in taking the Holy See under his protection, did not intend to uphold a reactionary and a retrograde Government, but a liberal and a progressive one; that it was time the wishes of the people were complied with, granting them at last those political and administrative reforms so often promised and so often postponed.

It is said that the Piedmontese section of members, disquieted by the state of affairs, is willing to support the Government.

It is officially stated also that the Government "asked explanations from the French Cabinet after M. Rouher's speech on the Roman question, and that the Imperial Government made an answer such as completely to satisfy the Italian Ministry."

The Italian Government, revoking a decision which provoked vehement protests, has now, it is said, agreed to go on paying its quota of the interest of the Pontifical debt, and the French Government has consented to the emission of an Italian loan in Paris.

General Cialdini has resigned the post of Italian Minister to the Court of Austria, which had been conferred upon him some months ago.

The sale of the ecclesiastical property continues to proceed most satisfactorily. The sales effected up to the 31st ult. had produced an increase of 43 per cent. on the valuations.

AMERICA.

We learn by Atlantic cable that the Senate having decided in favour of the reinstatement of Mr. Stanton, General Grant has vacated the War Office, and Mr. Stanton has resumed possession.

General Meade, commander of the Third Military District, has removed Mr. Jenkins from the governorship of Georgia, and has appointed General Dunn in his place. Mr. Jenkins has appealed to Mr. Johnson for protection. The President has assigned General T. W. Sherman (not Lieut.-General Sherman) to succeed General Meade. General Hancock has appointed Mr. Joshua Baker, a prominent Conservative, Governor of Louisiana, in place of Mr. Flanders, who has resigned.

The House of Representatives has rejected the bill passed by the Senate abolishing the tax upon the cotton crop of 1868.

Governor Bullock, of Massachusetts, in his inaugural message, advocated the nomination of General Grant to the Presidency, irrespective of party. The Washington section of the Grand Army of the Republic has also nominated General Grant.

The negroes in the South celebrated the anniversary of emancipation on the 1st with great enthusiasm.

The *New York Herald* states that if the Supreme Court should render decisions in the test cases now before it adverse to the enforcement of the Reconstruction Act provisions on the grounds of unconstitutionality, the President will at once order district commanders to be governed by such decisions.

The *New York Tribune* has a despatch from Washington, which states that, notwithstanding the abrupt termination of the Alabama claims correspondence between Lord Stanley and Secretary Seward, information has been received there that Mr. Thornton, the new British Minister, goes out empowered with full authority to reopen the question, and will present for the consideration of the United States a new plan of adjustment.

General Howard proposes to distribute eight millions dollars surplus funds from the Freedmen's Bureau among the destitute people of the South.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Marshal Niel has constituted a military mission to follow the British army in Abyssinia.

M. Berryer, the father of the French Bar, has just entered his seventy-ninth year.

The Pope has this year sent to the Queen of Spain the golden rose, which he blessed, as usual, at the mass, on Twelfth Day.

General Count Ladislas Zamoyaki, one of the most distinguished members of the Polish emigration, has just died at Paris.

The *Montreal Canadian* states that Lord Monck has received instructions to remain in Canada another year, Lord Naas, who was to succeed him, remaining in Ireland.

The Earl of Clarendon had a long audience of the Pope on New Year's Day, and left, with all his family, on the following day for Naples. His lordship saw several of the cardinals before his departure.

Prince Frederick of Augustenburg is stated to have formally expressed a desire to be reconciled with the King of Prussia, and to renounce his pretensions to the sovereignty of Schleswig-Holstein, in consideration of receiving a suitable appanage.

The largest share of emigration from the continent of Europe to America continues to be from Germany. In 1867 no fewer than 74,000 persons left Bremen for the New World, the greater number of whom were from Bohemia and the Eastern provinces of Prussia.

At the last State ball at Paris, the object of attention was a negro general, the splendour of whose uniform excelled that of his European brethren. On inquiry he proved to be the late President of Hayti. Two young Japanese ladies were likewise among the novelties of the evening.

FENIAN BABIES IN AMERICA.—It is actually asserted, as a fact significant of the adoration of the Irish for the Manchester prisoners, that two-thirds of the Irish babies now baptized in Philadelphia receive the Christian names of Allen, Gould, and Larkin.

THE ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS continues to be serious. Lava is slowly accumulating in the direction of Torre del Greco. The stream of lava is from seven to eight metres high, and from fifty to sixty broad. Shocks and detonations are frequent, and it is not likely that the eruption will soon cease.

THE FAMINE IN ALGERIA.—The *Avenir National* says it has received from a correspondent in Algeria most afflicting accounts of the progress of the famine in that country. The dead, it says, are so numerous, that they are thrown into trenches as on the day after a battle.

Count de Goltz, Prussian Ambassador at Paris, was operated on by Dr. Nélaton on Saturday for a tumour on the inside of the lip. He was chloroformed, and, notwithstanding, had to be held, it is said, by three strong men. Everything, however, was effected most successfully, and the patient is going on favourably.

SENATOR SUMNER and his wife, it is stated by the *Home Journal*, have finally agreed on a permanent separation. The ground alleged is "the certainty—discovered only too late—that there exists between the parties an incompatibility of temperament and opinion on certain social questions, which precludes the possibility of their living happily together as man and wife."

FRANCE AND PRUSSIA.—*Galignani* has the following telegram from Berlin:—"Count de Bismarck, at a hunting banquet at Barby, has made a speech to a large company of notables. He said that the spectre of a war with France was a pure phantasm, and he invited all present to have no anxiety on this subject."

An extraordinary phenomenon is reported from Niagara Falls. A strong wind so pressed back the waters of Lake Erie that the waters of the falls fell twenty feet. The American fall could be passed on foot. A great many curious and unsuspected rocks and holes were revealed, and the pit below the falls presented a wonderful appearance. Such a decline of the waters have never been known before.

AN IMPERIAL PUPIL.—The French Prince Imperial is first for calculation in this class of the Lycée Bonaparte. One of the professors attends twice a day at the palace, and thus the Prince follows precisely the college course, and does the same work as his fellow students at the Lycée. This is the first time the result has been published. The class consists of forty boys of every possible rank, from the sons of butchers and tailors to that of the Emperor.

GENERAL GRANT.—I doubt if any candidate has ever before been so unmistakeably, and with so near an approach to unanimity, selected by the public before the nominating convention met; and yet he rigidly holds his tongue. So many political nostrums

have been tried, and tried in vain, that people turn with a sense of relief to a man who has no nostrum to offer, or anything else, than character and past services.—*Correspondent of Daily News.*

JAMAICA.—The second session of the Jamaica Legislature was opened on the 16th of December by Sir John P. Grant, without the usual address. The deficiency of the revenue, 56,000*l.*, will involve on addition of ten per cent. at the Custom-house and a tax on dogs, &c. In consequence of a threatening letter, the Rev. T. Cook, rector of St. Thomas-in-the-East, in Morant Bay, spent his Christmas in Kingston.

THE FIRST PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENTS of the new provinces of Quebec and Ontario, in Canada, have been opened. The Ontario Parliament was opened on the 27th of December, at Toronto, by Lieutenant-Governor Sturges, and John Stevenson, M.P. for Lennox, was unanimously chosen Speaker of the House. The Quebec Parliament was opened the same day at Quebec by Lieutenant-Governor Belleau, and Colonel Blanchett was elected Speaker of the House.

THE FAMINE IN EAST PRUSSIA is reaching a deplorable height. It extends over a tract of country inhabited by 1,250,000 people, a very considerable portion of whom are destitute of the most ordinary necessities of life. In some parts the sufferers, a large proportion of whom seem to be Lithuanians, have been terrified by the appearance of a malignant typhus, the result of starvation or a long-continued course of bad food. From Berlin daily trains with fuel and provisions are despatched to the afflicted districts, but as yet without any visible alleviation of the calamity. The charitable munificence of the middle classes is very great.

EARL RUSSELL AND SIR JAMES HUDSON.—Sir James Hudson writes from Florence to a contemporary to state that, having read a letter signed "R." in the impression of the 4th inst., he begs to assure the editor that the facts connected with his retirement from her Majesty's mission at Turin are in that letter not in accordance with fact. "Earl Russell expressed a wish to appoint Sir James to the embassy at Constantinople, which he, from motives of health, considered it his duty to the Crown to decline. Earl Russell deemed those grounds sufficient, and permitted Sir James to retire upon the pension due to his rank."

SHOCKING ICE ACCIDENT.—A terrible catastrophe is reported from Mantes (Seine-et-Oise), in which nineteen persons have lost their lives. Three days back a countryman, named Fouchet, laid a wager that he would drive a heavily laden hay wagon across the Seine on the ice. When half way over the vehicle stopped, and twenty-eight persons went to the aid of the driver. Suddenly the ice gave way under the weight, and all were swallowed up. Two boatmen, Bourdet Pinagues and Hottot, succeeded in saving nine persons, but the others were drowned. Among the victims was M. Canat, the Mayor of Porcheville.

NICE PLACES TO LIVE IN.—We learn by the West Indian mail that at St. Thomas shocks of earthquake were still felt, and on the 29th December and following days they were of such severity as to keep the inhabitants in a state of great anxiety. Commercial affairs, in consequence remained unsettled. The harbour was in a fearful state, the water being more putrid than ever. This arose from the number of sunken vessels containing provisions. The slightest movement caused the most offensive exhalations, and it was feared that serious sickness would result unless the evil could be remedied. The *New York Tribune* writes:—"What a lovely spot for a residence Memphis must be! On Christmas-day a policeman was killed by a drunken party whom he was endeavouring to arrest. Another stray shot killed a German lad of seventeen; one negro boy was killed by another, and our despatch concludes by stating, with charming frankness, that "some dozen persons, mostly negroes, were accidentally shot during the day by the promiscuous firing of pistols loaded with ball." No doubt the 'promiscuous' feature of the day's sport was especially amusing when a negro or two came temptingly near."

MR. CHARLES DICKENS.—Mr. Charles Dickens's welcome in New York is as enthusiastic as ever, and all the seats for every reading now announced are sold. He can crowd the largest halls in the country for an interminable period with admiring listeners, and were he to stay five years in America, it is said he could earn at least 8,000 dols. net profit every week. Mr. Dickens himself is pleased with the welcome given him, and says it has surprised his most extravagant expectations. He is, it is stated, overwhelmed with requests for his autograph. He deals with them summarily, however. Applicants receive a printed answer, saying, "To comply with your modest request would not be reasonably possible." It is said that to envelope, direct, and mail these replies, the services of three secretaries are constantly required. At New York, on the last night of the old year, Mr. Dickens read "David Copperfield" and "Bob Sawyer's Party" to a large and brilliant audience. At the close, Mr. Dickens stepped to the front, and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, I wish you, from my heart of hearts, a happy, happy new year." This is the only speech Mr. Dickens has made in America.

DISTRESS IN FINLAND.—The Society of Friends are now raising funds amongst themselves and their neighbours for the relief of the famine-stricken Finlanders, who are suffering dreadful hardships. The harvest throughout the Grand Duchy of Finland has this year been a perfect failure, and no words can describe the misery, suffering, and sickness at present prevailing from one end of the province to the other. Iceland-moss, pine-tree bark, and pease-

straw, ground up together, and mixed with a little flour, is the only food wherewith the mother can now feed her child, and the only food on which thousands will be dependent for many months to come. A long and dreary winter has set in, with all its rigour, and it is truly heartrending to see whole families driven from their homes by famine and despair, wandering from place to place, half dead with cold, and in search of food and work, but finding neither. Severe frosts, which set in just before the last harvest, froze up the corn standing in the fields; and as very little had been cut, and that unripe, there is the most terrible failure of the harvest that has been experienced within living memory. The two preceding harvests had also been poor ones. Famine and death are the inevitable consequences. The Russian Government is making exertions for the relief of the starving multitudes, and the English residents in St. Petersburg have nobly responded to appeals for their assistance. But all this aid is wholly insufficient for the terrible necessity. Hence the English Friends are seeking to send succour from this country. Mr. Wilson Sturge (of J. and C. Sturge and Co.), Birmingham, will gladly receive contributions for this object.

COLOUR LEGISLATION.—An Ohio paper relates an incident that lately occurred in Muskingham County, which illustrates as clearly as possible one of the absurdities of colour legislation. Among a large number of coloured persons in that county, who form a well-to-do community by themselves, was one mulatto, whose children bear no outward evidence of being descendants of the patriarch whom Noah cursed. As these people paid a large amount of money in taxes for the support of schools, without enjoying any of the benefits, the mulatto referred to determined to test the question by sending his children to school. Of course there was great indignation in the village, and a committee of the school directors of the county was sent to the school to expel the intruders. The teacher refused to point out the individuals who had disturbed the peace of the school by their unwelcome presence. She had no complaint to make against them, and was willing they should remain. The committee selected three who, they thought, bore the strongest evidence of belonging to the proscribed race, and ignominiously expelled them. The scandal was great when it was discovered on the next day that the children of three of the wealthiest white men were the victims of the movement against negroes. The ludicrous result of this raid was the establishment of schools for "coloured" children, and the exemption of the wealthy negroes from further contributions to the education of their poor white neighbours.—*Boston Advertiser.*

DEATH OF M. ATHANASE COQUEREL, OF PARIS.—M. Athanase-Laurent-Charles Coquerel, who died on Friday in Paris, was well known as an eminent member and pastor of the French Protestant Church. He was seventy-two years of age. He was connected with England and English literature through his aunt, Miss Helena Williams, who undertook the care of his early education. After he became a pastor, in 1816, he was offered an incumbency in the Episcopal Church in Jersey, which he refused because he could not sign the Anglican confession of faith. He went to Holland, and for twelve years he ministered and preached in the Calvinistic churches of Utrecht, Amsterdam, and Leyden. He returned to France in 1830, and became a member of the Protestant Consistory in 1833. In consequence of the liberal opinions which he put forward, he was accused by the more rigid members of the French Protestant Church of abandoning the doctrines of exclusive faith and predestination. The result was a split amongst the members of the body, M. Coquerel being considered the leader of what may be regarded as the liberal Christian section, while M. Guizot was the prominent chief of the traditional orthodox Calvinists. After the revolution of 1848 Mr. Coquerel was elected member of the French Assembly for the Seine. His votes and eloquence, which was great, were always at the service of the Republic, but after the *coup d'état* he retired from politics. M. Coquerel was the author of several works, many of which have been translated into English, German, and Dutch.—*Express.*

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH IN AUSTRALIA.—A Melbourne letter of November 27 gives interesting details of the reception of the Duke at Melbourne. The Galatea arrived on the previous Saturday, and was received with a magnificent naval display. For the Sunday his Royal Highness remained on board. Monday came, and all Melbourne and the suburbs were astir from an early hour. Every train brought in its quota of volunteers or school-children, or Free Gardeners, or Rechabites, or Oddfellows, or Ancient Druids, to join those of the city and suburbs in the procession from Sandridge to Melbourne. At twelve o'clock precisely the Duke, accompanied by Lord Newry and the Hon. Mr. Yorke, landed at the railway pier of Sandridge. He was received by a military guard of honour, and by the Governor, the Ministry, and the members of the Reception Commission, at the landing-place. After receiving and responding to an address from the Mayor and Corporation of Sandridge, the Duke was escorted to an open carriage provided for him by the Governor, and drawn by four fine bays; and so, accompanied by his suite, commenced his progress of two miles to Melbourne. A long procession, consisting of members of the Government, of the Commission, of the Victorian Volunteer mounted troopers, and many voluntary societies, accompanied him to the Treasury. In the large open space before this building, and extending a long way down Collins-street, were assembled a vast number of well-dressed and prosperous-looking people, variously estimated at from 40,000 to 60,000

in number. Here the Duke received addresses from the two Houses of Parliament, amid the acclamations of a crowd declared by his Royal Highness to be one of the most orderly and well-conducted he had ever seen. At the conclusion of the ceremonial at the Treasury, he, with his suite, accompanied Sir Henry Manners Sutton to Government House, where the Duke will be domiciled during his stay at Melbourne. On the following day, the 26th inst., he held a *levée* at the New Exhibition building, at which about double the number of persons usually attending such ceremonials, and many addresses from public bodies, were presented to his Royal Highness. Nearly two hours elapsed before the work showed any signs of coming to an end. So the Duke, looking slightly fatigued, withdrew for a few moments, attended by the Governor and suite, to a private room for some refreshment, and, after about ten minutes' interval, returned to continue the receptions. The lower portion of the vast hall (in its entire length from end to end longer than Westminster Hall) and the galleries were occupied by ladies, who sat out the ceremonial until the withdrawal of the principal attraction. In the evening the city and suburbs were brilliantly illuminated, and the streets were crowded with their tens of thousands, so vast a number of persons never having been seen congregated together in Melbourne since the existence of the colony. Not a single person was put into the lock-up that night for misbehaviour. Next day the Duke attended a cricket-match, and in the evening he was the Governor's guest at a grand ball given by him in the Great Exhibition building. Other entertainments in rapid succession are to come off in town and country. While the ball to the Prince was proceeding, a number of Irishmen were getting up a row about an "Orange" transparency at the Protestant Hall. It commenced in an attempt to destroy the transparency, and the assailants were fired upon from the building. One man was shot—it is said mortally—and three others were wounded.

FENIANISM.

The prisoners charged with wilful murder at the outrage at Clerkenwell Prison were re-examined at Bow-street on Monday. Evidence was adduced to show that Burke was aware of something to be attempted in the nature of an explosion, and that he expected it on the preceding day. It further appeared that a barrel was brought on that day to the wall just in the same way as that which was exploded next day. The police have also discovered whence some, at least, of the explosive material was obtained, but the chain of circumstances in respect to that matter is yet incomplete. It appears that a man ordered 200lb. of blasting powder on the 4th of December at Curtis and Harvey's, Lombard-street, which was delivered as requested on the 6th, in four barrels, at a greengrocer's shop kept by a Mrs. Martin, in the neighbourhood of Golden-square. One barrel was left there, and the purchase money, 3*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, paid by a man who called himself Smith. Another man with a truck took the other three barrels, and conveyed them elsewhere. A good many surrounding details were narrated, but who Mrs. Martin and Smith are did not transpire; neither was the powder traced further, the counsel for the prosecution at that point asking for another remand, which was granted. O'Keefe is now added to the number of the prisoners against whom the charge of "wilful murder" is preferred. A man named Richard Wills gave evidence that on the day before the explosion he saw two men with a barrel on a truck, the latter having painted on it the words "To let," at the spot where the prison wall was afterwards blown down. He believed that O'Keefe was one of the men. Further evidence was called to show that O'Keefe was present at the spot where the explosion took place. The prisoners were again remanded.

On Monday Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., made an application in the Court of Queen's Bench, before the Lord Chief Justice and Justices Blackburn and Lush, for a rule nisi, to show cause why a writ of *certiorari* should not issue to remove the trial of Burke from Warwick to London. He moved on three grounds: First, that on account of the recent religious disturbances connected with Irishmen in Warwickshire, it is not desirable that the prisoner be tried by a jury coming from that county; secondly, that as a majority of the witnesses live in London, Liverpool, and Ireland, the extreme poverty of the prisoner would make it more difficult for him to conduct his defence in Warwickshire; and thirdly, that Burke wishes to make his selection of counsel from the whole bar and not from the Midland circuit only, to which he would be restricted if tried in the midland county. An animated conversation then took place between the justices and Mr. Coleridge. Justice Lush said that even should the application be granted, the witnesses would have to be sent to Warwick, because it is only after the indictment has been found that it can be removed, and Mr. Justice Blackburn appeared to think little of Burke's difficulties on this ground. But the sting of the application seemed to be in its tail. Burke was anxious to have the best counsel Mr. Coleridge said, because, he being a naturalised American subject, a question might be raised as to the composition of the jury. "What question can be raised?" said Justice Blackburn in his haste; "he has no more pretence for saying that than any other Englishman accused of any other crime." "Your lordship appears to have already decided the point without hearing me," replied Mr. Coleridge, sweetly. "Only one member of the court has expressed an opinion on the point," said the Lord Chief Justice, coming to the rescue of his discomfited brother. The application was ultimately postponed for the consid-

ration of the point. The fourth battalion of the 60th Rifles (seventy strong) arrived at Warwick on Tuesday evening, to do duty at the county gaol. On Wednesday Mr. Fitzjames Stephen made an application in the Court of Queen's Bench that the Fenian prisoners, Casey and Shaw, who, with Burke, have been sent for trial to Warwick, may be brought to London to take their trial at the Central Criminal Court. It was stated that the Attorney-General left the matter in the hands of the court, and a rule nisi was granted in the present case, as well as in that of Burke, for whom Mr. Coleridge appeared on a previous day.

The eleven prisoners remanded on Monday week on the charge of treason-felony, were brought up before the magistrates at Merthyr on Tuesday morning for their further examination. In consequence of information having reached the magistrates that an attempt would be made to interfere with the course of law, special constables to the number of about 120 were all armed with staves, and mustered in and about the police-court; but the arrangements of Mr. Wrenn and the regular police having been sufficient for all purposes, the special constables were dismissed from duty after ten, when the court opened, the sergeants of squads being requested to hold themselves in readiness for assembling upon any emergency. A detachment, however, remained in court during the whole of the proceedings. The prisoners were brought from Cardiff by the ordinary train, in charge of a powerful force of police. Coffee, the informer, arrived by first train from Swansea, in charge of Mr. Cox, the governor of the gaol. A considerable number of persons gathered in the square opposite. Coffee, the informer, and others, gave evidence of the prisoners being members of the Brotherhood, and taking part in drilling on the mountain, and some of them having administered the oath. Coffee declared that in giving evidence he was not actuated by any hope of reward or pardon. Mr. W. R. Smith, in defence, contended that words, however bad, did not amount to treason, and that the words and the acts of the prisoners, separately considered, did not do so. The evidence did not connect them. He reviewed the evidence against each prisoner, and applied for the discharge of Flynn, the two Whelans, Barrett, and Farley. The Bench discharged Barrett, but committed the other prisoners for trial. Doran made a florid speech, charging Coffee with introducing Fenianism into the district. The excitement was great.

A policeman named Michael Serridge, who has been in the Birmingham police-force for thirteen years, has been placed in custody on a charge of using seditious language in reference to the attack upon the prison van at Manchester, and also in regard to the prisoners who have been committed to take their trial at Warwick Assizes. He has been released, but discharged from the police-force.

A man named Lennox has been arrested, who is believed to have shot Sergeant Kelly and Constable McKenna in Dublin. It is thought probable that the fortunate apprehension in Dublin of this person, who was the leader of the Fenians next in command to the supreme Fenian officer, "General" Thomas, in the county of Dublin insurrection of March, 1867, will lead to a complete disclosure of the Fenian plans of action for an 1868 "spring campaign." Lennox originally served in the 9th Lancers, from which corps he deserted. After the March rising, having eluded the police searches, he went to America, but returned in August or September last. The police believe "Colonel" Kelly, who was Lennox's general companion to be now in Dublin. One of the revolvers found upon Lennox, it is said, was a weapon taken from the police at Tallaght on the night of the "insurrection." The prisoner is a young man of twenty-five.

The last reports of the state of the remaining sufferers from the recent explosion in Clerkenwell now in the Royal Free and Bartholomew's Hospitals, describe the condition of the patients to be progressing favourably, with the exception of the boy Henry Abbott, an inmate of the Royal Free Hospital. He is five years old, and is incurably blind. He lies constantly with his eyes to the pillow, as if lost to this world. Mr. Gant, the surgeon to the hospital, under whose care all the patients have been, speaks of those now under treatment as being so far recovered as to be able to leave the hospital shortly. The majority of those who were out-patients are no longer under treatment.

The subscriptions got up in Ireland for the "Manchester martyrs," and other Fenian objects, are admitted to be failures. Mr. John Martin himself says so in the latest number of the *Irishman*. The correspondent of the *Times* says:—

There is a fund to defend Mr. Martin himself from the Government prosecution. The whole amount received in one week as a national tribute in honour of this conspicuous patriot was 1s. 6d., and this came from Manchester! Last week 11s. was added, no doubt to secure the services of the most eminent counsel. A Burke and Casey defence fund is scarcely more prosperous. These are suggestive facts.

A correspondence has taken place between Mr. Digby Seymour and Mr. Edmond Beales, the result of which is that the address of loyal Irishmen to the Queen will lie for signature at the offices of the Reform League. Mr. Beales says he has no doubt it will be readily signed by the Irish members of the League, who are, however, he states, few in number. Mr. Digby Seymour anticipates that if only 5,000 Irishmen in London sign the address, it will be a moral protest against the advocates of revolutionary change in Ireland, and will be important as an appeal to the employers of Irish labour in England against assuming that all Irishmen whose opinions are unknown are at heart Fenians.

The Mayor of Dewsbury has taken a sensible step. The other day he invited the Irish population to tea, and 200 accepted an invitation, the tea being followed by addresses, amongst others from the priests who were present. They denounced Fenianism, and expressed the deepest sympathy with the unfortunate victims of the recent outrages.

Revised instructions to the special constables who have been lately sworn in have been issued by Colonel Ewart, from the Special Constables' Office at Wellington Barracks. The document says that the defensive measures now taken must have so far a permanent character that they shall be adapted to last through the winter, and it adds that the best organisation will be that which will afford the regular police prompt assistance when needed, without calling on the specials to undertake regular duty.

The proposed anti-Fenian demonstration under the auspices of the Working Men's Conservative Association is now formally abandoned.

The proprietor of the *Irishman*, Dublin weekly newspaper, has been committed for trial on the charge of publishing seditious libels against the Government.

POLITICAL EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE.

The fourth of a series of lectures for the political education of the people, under the auspices of the Reform League, was delivered on Tuesday night in St. James's Hall, by Professor Fawcett, M.P., the subject being "The Future of our Rural Population." Mr. E. Beales, president of the Reform League, presided. In the course of his lecture, the Professor (who was very cordially received) thus described what was considered a well-doing agricultural parish:—

There was a resident country gentleman who owned all the land, and no doubt led a very happy life. There was a resident clergyman, who did all the duties of a minister of religion. There were three or four village tradesmen, and perhaps three or four large farmers, who perhaps paid a rent of 1,000l. a year each. Then there were eighty or a hundred agricultural labourers in that parish, who tilled the land, and when they inquired into what was their condition, what a sad and melancholy tale was revealed. At an agricultural meeting in Gloucestershire the Rev. J. Fraser, well known for the services he had rendered to education, said he had been over the county and had come to the conclusion that the average agricultural wages were 10s. a week, when bread was 1s. 5d. the 8lb. loaf. (Hear.) That was a state of semi-starvation. (Hear, hear.) The minds of the children of agricultural labourers were ruined by premature work, and their lives were blasted with the blight of ignorance. (Hear, hear.) The labourers lived in miserable hovels, and worked with the regularity of machines. Saving was out of the question, and the consequence was, that when they became prematurely old the pauper's lot was their only prospect. (Hear, hear.) Previous to 1832 the power of the land was supreme; after 1832 it still possessed too much power; and even the popular triumph of 1867 had not reduced the power of the landlord class to its due and proportionate limits. (Hear, hear.)

After referring at some length to the question of free trade in land—a subject we have referred to in another column—the lecturer dwelt upon the importance of education to the agricultural labourer. They had got household suffrage for the boroughs, and he would suggest that the cry should be household suffrage in the counties. He did not dread giving the suffrage to the agricultural labourers. Possibly they might be influenced for an election or two by those above them in social position, but he had great confidence in the education given by the suffrage.

On Wednesday evening a public meeting was held in Cambridge Hall, Newman-street, Oxford-street, Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., in the chair, to inaugurate a series of lectures, to be given by the Rev. H. Solly every Wednesday evening till Easter, on the political and social history of the Roman Republic (introductory to the history of modern Europe), and every Sunday evening, on the connection of religion with politics, and with other matters of daily life. Letters sympathising with Mr. Solly's object had been received from Mr. John Stuart Mill, M.P., Professor Fawcett, M.P., Mr. Layard, M.P., Mr. Stansfeld, M.P., Mr. Goldwin Smith, Mr. Samuel Morley, and other gentlemen who were unable to attend. The chairman said:—

They had met to wish Mr. Solly God speed, and to assist him as far as they could in the new work he had undertaken. Perhaps the working classes required the assistance of such lectures more than any other section of society, and the subject for the Wednesday evening discussions had been well chosen, for nothing could better illustrate the politics of our own day than the history of the Roman republic. The divinity lectures he regarded even as of more importance than the historical. (Hear, hear.) Religious questions were moving deeply not only the minds of the English, but of all other peoples, and the estrangement there had been of late years amongst the working classes of London from all consideration of those religious questions had been a source of grief to himself and others. It was impossible for those great questions to be passed over without serious evil, for on the soundness of our religious and political thought depended the prosperity of nations. (Applause.)

Mr. Solly expressed his delight at witnessing so full an attendance at this preliminary meeting, and dwelt upon the importance now-a-days of studying the science of politics. He, with a few friends, were anxious to help the working man to the study, but while they looked after the politics of the State they would never lose sight of the politics of the kingdom of God. (Hear, hear.) Professor Seeley, M.A., moved the first resolution, remarking that the greatest political fact of past history was certainly

the Roman republic; and Mr. Solly had made a highly judicious selection. The resolution affirmed:—

That the meeting heartily approves of the projected series of lectures on Roman history, the political school for all times and countries, to be given by the Rev. Henry Solly, believing that such a course will be beneficial to the working classes, the experiences of other nations and ages having become more than ever important to them since they have been invested with the rights and called on to discharge the duties of citizenship.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. J. Parker, and unanimously adopted. The Rev. Edward White moved the second resolution, as follows:—

That in the opinion of this meeting Mr. Solly's proposed course of Sunday evening lectures will meet a want greatly felt by a class of our countrymen who are not at present identified with any system of theological teaching, or with any religious organisation. We therefore pledge ourselves to aid him in his endeavours to meet that want according to the best of our ability.

The resolution, which was seconded by Mr. How, a working man, and supported by Mr. Hodgson Pratt, having been carried unanimously, a third was proposed by Mr. Neill, seconded by Mr. Dell, and agreed to, as follows:—

That this meeting hears with much satisfaction that Mr. Solly's lecture committee have taken steps for the building or purchase of premises for a central working man's hall and artisans' club, where lectures and concerts may be given, business be transacted, and public or social meetings to be held, the want of such a place of meeting having long been felt by the working men of this metropolis.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the chairman, and the meeting, which was composed chiefly of working men, separated.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE AT MANCHESTER.

An important conference on public education was commenced on Wednesday at Manchester, and was held in the Town Hall. The meeting was of an influential and representative character, and was convened by the Manchester Educational Committee, who promoted the bill introduced last session of Parliament by Mr. Bruce, Mr. Forster, and Mr. A. Egerton. The committee, having come to the conclusion that the hon. members should be requested to reintroduce the bill or to support any measure of the Government based on similar principles, called the conference together for the purpose of aiding them in the consideration of matters of detail. Amongst the gentlemen present were some fifteen M.P.'s, a considerable number of clergymen and Dissenting ministers, professors, and well-known laymen. The proceedings were opened by a preliminary meeting of the Educational Bill Committee, at which the following report was presented:—

That, in the opinion of this committee, it is expedient to make greater provision for the education of the poorer classes, and to provide funds for that purpose by means of local rates under local administration.

That the union of existing schools, either as free schools or aided schools, should form the basis of operation, subject to the conditions laid down in the minutes of the Committee of Council on Education in force for the time being, as reported to Parliament from time to time, and the protection of a Conscience Clause, but without further interference with the instruction, discipline, or management of such schools.

That power should be given to establish new schools out of the rates, where there is insufficient school accommodation in the schools in union in any locality, if, after due notice, voluntary effort fails to supply the deficiency.

That Messrs. Bruce, Forster, and Algernon Egerton be earnestly requested to reintroduce the bill of last session, or to support any measure brought forward by the Government, if based upon similar principles.

That, with the view of aiding the Educational Bill Committee in matters of detail, the opinion of the conference be invited on the following questions:—

1. The relative advantages of a permissive bill and one based on compulsory rating.
2. If the bill be based on compulsory rating, would it be desirable to make it applicable at once to the whole country, or applicable only by Order in Council, on the report of her Majesty's school inspectors?
3. Is there anything peculiar in the condition of rural parishes which renders it needful to make special regulations on their behalf, or to exempt them from the operation of the bill?
4. To what extent is it desirable to modify the Minutes of Council so as to include purely secular schools?

Amongst the letters of apology read was one from Earl Russell, who said:—"I am strongly in favour of Mr. Bruce's bill. It may be expedient not to make it compulsory in the first instance. But that is a point which may be left to the House of Commons to decide." Mr. J. Stuart Mill, M.P., writing from Avignon, said he should continue to support Mr. Bruce's bill. Sir J. P. Kay Shuttleworth expressed his hearty sympathy with the general objects of the conference. Mr. Algernon Egerton promised his cordial co-operation. The following letter was read from the Rev. R. W. Dale, of Birmingham:—

12, Calthorpe-street, Jan. 2.

My dear Mr. Dixon,—I find, to my great regret, that it will be impossible for me to arrange to be present at the Educational Conference at Manchester. Had I been there I should have endeavoured to correct one grave misapprehension. It is generally supposed that the Congregationalists of this country are anxious to preserve, unimpaired, the denominational element as our national system of education. This impression has been produced by speeches recently delivered by two or three gentlemen holding a conspicuous position among us, and exerting considerable influence—gentlemen for whom I have the most cordial respect, and whose zeal in the cause of popular education deserves the gratitude of the country. But, having a large knowledge of the actual state of opinion on this question among Congregationalists, I deny most distinctly and most emphatically

ally that the impression to which I have referred is at all accurate. What, before all other things, nine Congregationalists out of ten would prefer would be a national system, locally administered, of secular education. This is what we wanted nearly thirty years ago, and the protest in 1846-7 against all State interference with popular education was really a temporary departure from the policy which Congregational Dissenters originally professed. There are many of us, however, who feel that it would be alike unjust and inexpedient violently to break up the present schools; and we are anxious to discover the best method of conciliating the claims of those who have worked hard under the present system, with what seem to us the imperative necessity of introducing a broader and bolder scheme. We have no affection for the denominational system: we should generally prefer secular schools; but there are many among us, as I have said, who are unwilling to ignore the great services which have been rendered to the country by those whose schools are at present in connection with the Privy Council.

If you can convey to the conference this protest of mine against an injurious mistake, I will feel greatly obliged.

I am, my dear Sir, yours most respectfully,

R. W. DALE.

G. Dixon, Esq., M.P.

The Dean of MANCHESTER, in moving the appointment of the chairman and secretaries, said that though he was not entirely convinced in respect to the bill, it was necessary that far more should be done for education than had yet been accomplished. It seemed to him that very many people were particularly anxious about conscience in matters of education, while there was comparatively little conscientiousness upon any others. (Laughter and applause.) He wished people would consult their consciences constantly, and there would be some reason to hope they were doing rightly. If this were not a Church question, he would have nothing to do with it, for he believed the Established Church was necessary and suited to the wants of the country, though he did not mean to say others were not necessary or desirable. Without the Established Church he thought it would be impossible we could exist long together.

The Dean of CHESTER, in seconding the resolution, said in the course of a long experience he had never found any difficulty in respect to the Conscience Clause.

During about seventeen years in Liverpool he had the superintendence of three very large schools, founded with reference to three supposed grades of society, but on one general principle, and under the same management. These schools had most distinctively a Church of England character. The prayers were selected from the Book of Common Prayer, and the instruction was such as would be presumed to be given by members of the Church of England. But, with the view of not excluding those who might have difficulties and scruples with reference to religion, this simple Conscience Clause was inserted in the constitution, that all parents who desired it might have their children exempted from learning the Church Catechism. It worked perfectly well. The children of Nonconformists in the upper school were about 20 per cent., in the middle about 30, and in the lower about 40. The mere fact of the attendance of these sons of Nonconformists, accepting the advantages of the institution, implied a very general contentment with its system. But the number of parents supposed to be Nonconformists who asked for the application of the clause was very small indeed. His observation made him think it a mistake to suppose that there was a very strongly marked line in all cases between Church people and Nonconformists, and it might very likely happen that if the father took one view the mother took another, and, possibly, a wiser view. (Laughter.)

Mr. BRUCE, on taking the chair, made an able speech, in the course of which he said, relative to his own bill:—

If this conference is to be crowned with success, if the common action by which victory can alone be won shall be attained, it can only be by the sacrifice on the part of some of us of opinions upon matters which, after all, be it remembered, are for the most part not so much of principle as of expediency and policy. I think I may venture to say on the part of all the promoters of the bill, as I certainly can of myself, that in advocating a permissive measure, we must not be held as denying the principle that it is the duty of the State to see that provision is made for the education of all its citizens. But we are deeply conscious of the difficulty of giving effect to that principle; and, reasoning from past experience, and forming the best judgment we could of the existing state of public opinion, we presented the bill in the form we thought most likely to commend it to the acceptance of Parliament and the country. However deep and widespread might be the disinclination to adopt a general system of rating for the furtherance of education, we thought that in asking that every community should at least have the option of taxing itself for this purpose, we were making a demand so moderate, so reasonable, so proof against substantial objection, that it would be hardly possible for Parliament to refuse it. We also were well aware of the obstacles, which the want of local organisations, adapted to the management of schools, opposed to the present adoption of a general national system. I speak for myself, but I believe I represent the opinions of most of the promoters of the bill, when I say that we were not very sanguine as to the applicability of our measure to the metropolis until its system of local government and taxation should have been reformed; and that, while adopting the Poor Law unions as the school districts, where no municipal bodies existed, we did so on the defensive principle of availing ourselves of the best actual machinery, but with deep misgivings as to its complete adaptation to the purpose. We believed, too, that, while public opinion was ripening, and bracing itself for greater efforts, some stirring, energetic localities would be engaged in trying experiments which would furnish instructive materials for future legislation, and give encouragement to bolder and more comprehensive action. If this interval of experiment and transition were to witness the growth of larger views of national education, extending beyond the subject of our present

consideration to a system worthy of the name, and, if the necessity for the creation of a special organisation for purposes not hitherto contemplated in our territorial divisions were, during this period of permissive legislation, to force itself upon the public mind, I cannot but think that in not attempting too much at first, in limiting our efforts to what was probably attainable, we should, in the opinion of candid and clear-sighted judges, be deemed to have pursued a prudent policy, the benefit of which would before long be visible in the "well-ripened fruit of wise delay." Believing, therefore, that the advantages of our measure have been unduly depreciated, and that the difficulties of introducing a new element into our educational system have been under-estimated by those who have either not experienced or not sufficiently considered the enormous pressure of religious and financial opposition, I venture to ask for the bill of last session and the principles on which it is founded a careful and cautious consideration. The best result we can expect from this conference and from early legislation, is but advance and improvement. The most sanguine among us do not, I presume, believe in the possibility, without a prolonged struggle and much enlightenment of public opinion, of passing such a measure of national education as shall satisfy the aspirations of our best and wisest reformers. We must look to a steady and continuous progress rather than to a sudden and complete change of system, and we should especially beware how, in the natural eagerness to attain completeness and perfection, we risk the loss of a good which seems fairly within our grasp. But, while thus justifying the bill of the last session, by reasons of which I think all will admit the weight even where they deny their conclusiveness, we desire heartily and unreservedly to express our wish to take counsel with others whose views may be more ambitious, but whose interest in the cause is as great as our own, who have equally good means with ourselves of gauging public opinion, of knowing what is wanted, and of judging what is practicable. To me it will be a source of unmixed and unbounded satisfaction if the result of this conference shall be to convince me that either I have under-estimated the force of public opinion in favour of large and comprehensive legislation, or that, under the pressure of peculiar circumstances, such has been the growth of the public mind within the last six months that we may safely venture to cast aside the modest measure of 1867 as inadequate to satisfy the aspirations and convictions of 1868.

In respect to purely secular schools, he said—

When we find Mr. Gladstone objecting to the bill on account of its exclusion of secular schools—when men so widely divergent in their views of religious freedom as Aroldson Denison and Mr. Baines are agreed in advocating the right of secular schools to State and local aid, the promoters of the bill can hardly refuse to reconsider the policy of their provision. It may, indeed, be a question whether—the bill remaining for the present in its present form—the attempt to obtain the recognition of secular schools should not rather be made by a motion in Parliament for an alteration of the eighth article of the Revised Code. To the opponents of secular education I would venture to suggest that this recognition of secular schools is a very different thing from the establishment of a secular system, specifically excluding religious teaching. The province of the State is to promote secular instruction, and neither to impose religious teaching on those who object to it, nor to interfere with it in its fullest freedom where it is called for and approved.

The right hon. gentleman concluded amid much applause, and then said that, as the first two questions were so closely connected, they would be taken together. They were:—Permissive, or compulsory rating. If compulsory, how set in motion?

The Ven. Aroldson SANDFORD, in expressing his sympathy with the movement, vindicated the great body of the clergy from the charge of apathy in the work of popular education. He believed that no men had made greater self-sacrifices than the parochial clergy, and if the moneyed men and the landed proprietors, on their part, had borne as large a proportion of the cost and the labour, our educational statistics would at this moment have presented a very different aspect. (Hear, hear.) He strongly advised a compulsory bill. In this view he was supported by Mr. G. Dixon, M.P., and by the Hon. Auberon Herbert who said he would make the rating as inoffensive as possible.

Mr. FORSTER, M.P., repeated substantially the views he expressed last week on this subject.

He would leave the bill as it at present stands, arranging that the majority of ratepayers could at once bring the Act into operation; but, somewhat as had been suggested by Mr. Herbert, he would give power to the Government—the Minister of Education, if there be one, or the Privy Council if there be not one—and he should not suggest the inspectors, but other gentlemen—only three or four would be wanted—to inquire into the state of neglected districts, and upon proof being given satisfactory to the Government that there was not sufficient school accommodation, or that the schools were not sufficiently good, that then the Government should have power by an Order in Council to force the district to rate itself. But he thought it would be excessively unwise for them to come forward with a bill making rating compulsory all over the country. There were many districts in which, by the voluntary system, good schools were sufficiently established. They had no right to force rates on those districts; they would be doing harm by it. On the other hand, they must be ready to meet the case of neglected districts by giving such powers to the Government as were necessary for the purpose. There was also another reason to be taken into account. Last year we passed not merely a Reform Bill, but two measures which would probably change the whole position of education in the country. We extended the Factory Acts to a vast number of employments which were now under it, and we passed the Workshops Regulation Act. The last of these two Acts was briefly this—that almost all the working children in towns would be obliged to have some schooling; and the feeling of the country was such that he did not think two sessions would be allowed to pass before the Act would be extended to the agricultural districts.

The Rev. G. W. CONDER spoke of the active part he had taken in the voluntary movement during the last twenty years, and said he was not there for the

purpose of making any recantation. He still held that it was first of all the parent's duty to educate his child, and that, were it practicable to bring parents to a full sense of their responsibility in this matter, they might achieve the greatest results by appealing to this principle. He was further of opinion that if the various educational forces of the country had been directed to a common object, they would not now be in their present unsatisfactory position. He warned the meeting against erecting a new institution in the country which was out of harmony with the existing institutions. Happily, we in England knew little about compulsion, and we ought not to resort to it except under the direst necessity.

Mr. BAZLEY, M.P., was an uncompromising supporter of compulsory rating and compulsory attendance at school.

Mr. JACOB BRIGHT said that if it should happen that only a permissive bill should be carried, a step like that was by some very much underrated. In his opinion it would be the greatest educational step which the Legislature of this country had ever made. Mr. Bruce had said that the permissive legislation they were now seeking was the legislation adopted in Upper Canada, and that in a very short time by far the greater portion of Upper Canada had put itself under the provisions of the bill. It abandoned voluntary education, and resorted to education by rates. The Rev. T. W. FOWLE, M.A., of London, spoke of his connection with a large school, which had been successfully conducted on the principles of the Conscience Clause. Professor JACK, Owen's College, cordially agreed with the suggestions of Mr. Herbert and Mr. Forster. He believed that the measure as it stood last year, had all the defects of the voluntary system. It was a measure which was thoroughly in place and thoroughly in time then, but it could not touch the apathetic and neglected districts of the country.

He was not anxious to see the State come in, in the first instance; he believed a local measure would secure more economy, would more easily get over the religious difficulty, and would in many ways be more satisfactory than a national measure; but it was perfectly clear that the State could not accept the simple negative of the locality, and say, "We have thrown over our responsibility for these children to you; you have neglected the responsibility, and we are satisfied." (Hear, hear.) Parents might have their first duties, and localities their second duty; but if parents neglected their duty (and the voluntaries themselves confessed that parents had neglected, and would continue to neglect, their duty), and if the localities neglected their duty (and many localities were too poor to perform the duty), was the country to remain satisfied that this educational destitution should go on? That was not the answer that the English people would give to the question of education. (Cheers.)

Mr. GOSCHEN, M.P., said that he so far disagreed with the promoters of the bill as to consider the power given to the Government to compel neglected districts to do their duty the most important part of the bill. If we encourage a rate, we might discourage voluntary effort. He would have a rate as a last resource, but apply it at once, not keep it in reserve. Some districts in London would never adopt the rates of their own accord, where the rates were so high that the ratepayers were falling into a state of pauperism. To deal with the neglected districts was absolutely necessary, but he would not at once attempt to compel every child to attend, because the attempt would fail.

In the course of the subsequent debate Earl DE GREY moved:—

That this conference respectfully requests the Right Hon. H. A. Bruce, Mr. W. E. Forster, and Mr. Herbert, either to re-introduce the bill of last session, with such modifications as may be deemed desirable in conference with the Education Bill Committee, to render it more complete, or to lend their support to any Government measure based on similar principles.

Mr. STANSFELD, M.P., seconded the motion, and it was carried with one dissentient.

Subsequently the question of schools in rural districts was introduced by Canon Robinson of Skipton, who thought that two things were necessary to the efficiency of small rural schools,—first, considerable relaxation in the restrictions imposed by the Committee of Council; and, secondly, in certain cases, increased grants. He proposed that there should be a confederation of schools, and an association of parishes for rating and teaching purposes. In addition to this, landed proprietors might be allowed to establish educational rent-charges on their estates in place of rating, which would secure a permanent educational fund for the district. Mr. A. RUTSON, of Merton College, Oxford, argued against the folly of stopping short of the rural districts, in which hopeless ignorance was entrenched, though in some places there was a good system of education. The Rev. Mr. LEGGE spoke in favour of an elective, as opposed to a non-elective Board. He thought the guardians might be too economical in their educational notions. After some further discussion, in which Earl DE GREY and the Hon. LYULPH STANLEY took part,

Mr. C. S. ROUNDELL introduced the question of secular schools. He said they must disabuse the public mind of the foundation upon which it rested—namely, that education was a matter of patronage, and that it was the special function and prerogative of the clergy. Hitherto it had been too much an affair of the squire and the parson. Nothing could be done until they got rid of this notion, that education was a boon or bounty from a superior class, or that it was in any sense the peculiar province of the clergy. They must insist upon the idea that education was above all a popular right—(Hear, hear)—a parental not a sacerdotal duty—a common State necessity.

After considerable discussion, Canon Robinson said that, while not desiring the secular system, he did not fear it, and he confessed that the attempts

to give religious instruction in schools had answered in appearance rather than in reality. Religious instruction was a subtle thing, and must depend mainly on home influence. He agreed that secular schools had a right to demand State aid.

On Friday Mr. FORSTER, M.P., presided, and delivered the opening speech. The principal themes of discussion were the Industrial Schools and Factory Acts and the question of compulsory attendance. Before the conference closed the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

That the Education Bill Committee be requested, in conjunction with Mr. Baile, to prepare such clauses as they may consider practicable to enforce the attendance at school of neglected children, and to request him to give notice before any education bill brought into Parliament comes to a second reading that he will introduce such clauses in committee.

A vote of thanks to the two successive chairmen concluded the proceedings.

THE REV. NEWMAN HALL ON AMERICA.

On Wednesday night the Rev. Newman Hall delivered a lecture on America, after his recent visit to that country, to a large assemblage in the Metropolitan Tabernacle.

Mr. Hall, who met with a most enthusiastic reception on presenting himself, thanked the meeting for the kindness of the greeting which welcomed him on his return from America. He took it as an earnest of their goodwill to America. He hoped he might also take it as an earnest of their goodwill towards the pecuniary object connected with the meeting—namely, the collection of a fund for the erection of a lecture-hall and schoolroom in connection with that new church which they must build in place of the Surrey Chapel, the lease of which would soon expire. Having opened his lecture with a humorous description of the voyage out, he said that his friend Mr. Cyrus Field came on board at Halifax. Mr. Field told him that no angry message had ever been sent between the two countries by the Atlantic cable. (Applause.) An American from Dorchester came on board—Dorchester in America. He told them that he had been in Dorchester in England, and he pointed out three things in which the Dorchester of America differed from the Dorchester of England. Dorchester in America had public schools in which all the children of the town were educated—this was not the case in the Dorchester of England; in the Dorchester of America there was no house where a man could get drunk—there were thirty-seven such places in the English Dorchester; the poor-house in Dorchester had only twelve poor people in it—it was far different in the English town. He was much pleased with Boston when he arrived there. He regretted that on the way he saw some persons who were intoxicated. This was not inconsistent with something else which he had said. He had stated that he saw more drunken persons in a late walk in London than he had seen during the whole time he was in America, and he repeated the statement. But this did not mean that there was no drunkenness in America. He regretted there was too much of it. At Boston he was charged two sovereigns for two breakfasts—one for himself and one for his friend—and for keeping his luggage, and when he remonstrated, he was told that he might, if he liked, have his meals for two for the day—6½ dollars for each. That was the rule of the hotel. The voyage from Boston to New York, by Newport, was amusingly described, accompanied with anecdotes illustrative of American life and manners. He visited the house of Washington Irving, and was kindly received by his nieces. He also visited West Point, where there was a military college. He had given them his experience of the Boston hotels; but at the Katskill Mountain Hotel the proprietor would accept nothing either for himself or his friend, and he experienced the same hospitality at many other places. The river-boats and railway-carriages had often been described, but no description could do justice to the comfort, and even the luxury, of their arrangements. Persons could travel for 1,500 miles continuously, sleeping and living in the train during the whole journey. There was a disagreeable practice of chewing tobacco, and its necessary consequence, in America, which he hoped would never be adopted in this country. (Hear, hear.) The American system of dealing with passengers' luggage was described, and was recommended for adoption in this country. He found from inquiry amongst the labouring classes that workmen in England, if they were only sober, might be as well off as they were in America. But the homestead system, by which a man and his wife could obtain eighty acres of land on certain conditions, gave the American working classes an advantage over the working classes in England. He passed through Saratoga, Utica, to Rochester. At the last-named place he asked to see the waterfall of which he had heard. He asked where it was. The person he asked said "the stores were not yet opened." He said he did not want stores—he wanted to see the waterfall. "Oh yes, we call ladies' hair waterfalls here," was the reply he received. He passed on to Niagara, of which an interesting description was given, and many anecdotes were related. He went out to see the falls at night. He observed a man watching him. He inquired why he did so. "Oh," said he, "I did not know what you were about. You might have jumped into the stream; I saw two gents do it." The journey from Niagara to Lake Ontario, and the passage of the rapids of the St. Lawrence, was next described. In Canada he found that there was no State Church. All churches were free. The system

of education was described. There were primary, central, and grammar schools, and these were supported by a general tax. The system in the United States was something different, and the schools were classified into primary, grammar and high schools. Every child in America could be instructed in any of these schools, and there was no position in the State which was not open to the child of the poorest person in America, if that child had the intellect to attain to it. These were not charity schools. They were indispensable because education was indispensable to the nation. He went to the West—to Chicago. He must say he found everywhere the negro waiters throughout America to be perfect gentlemen. Those who needlessly asserted their independence were generally snobs. Here he visited a negro church, and was much pleased with what he saw. In Chicago he met a house which was being moved from one part of the town to another, with all the people in it—women and children. He visited Robert Lincoln, the son of the President, and invited him to breakfast. He remarked that if he had been in England he would be Prince Robert. His reply was, "I know my father's position would make no difference to me, that I must work for my living"; and so he did in the profession of a solicitor, except for the short time that he had been fighting under General Grant. He asked him about the Queen's letter. "Yes," said he, "we have been asked often about that letter, we have been asked to publish it. But it is a long letter of three pages; the outgushing of a generous woman's heart, and my mother and myself thought it would not be right to publish a letter written in the effusion of a woman's heart." (Applause.) He visited Springfield, the native place of President Lincoln, and preached an anti-slavery sermon. He had not time to describe the hospitality he had received at Boston, and the kindness with which he had been received by Longfellow, Lowell, and Whittier, and by the clergymen of America, not excluding the Unitarian ministers. There was a universal sentiment in America with regard to the Church, and it was this, that to endow a Church was to cripple it. (Applause.) The rev. gentleman concluded a lengthy, but by no means tedious lecture, as he had begun, amidst the universal applause of his numerous audience.

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE OF PEACE AND LIBERTY.

This association has adopted the following address:—

TO THE FRIENDS OF PEACE AND LIBERTY IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Fellow-Countrymen,—At the Geneva congress in September last, an international league of peace and liberty was established, with the view of uniting the peoples of the several nations of Europe in the great common object of putting an end to the horrors of war, and securing the blessings of universal peace—an object considered to be inseparably connected with the promotion of political, religious, and commercial freedom in each of those nations, as the surest means of fostering friendly international intercourse and substituting mutual international interests for international prejudices, rivalries, and antipathies. More than 20,000 inhabitants of different nations of Europe—Germany, Italy, France, England, Switzerland, Belgium, Russia, Poland, Sweden, Spain—have become members of this league. An English branch of it was formed on the 13th of December last, and we respectfully commend the branch to your support. By the resolutions establishing the league, it was stated that the government of the great Powers of Europe had shown themselves incapable of preserving peace, and that the existence and increase of standing armies, constituting a latent state of permanent war, are incompatible with the liberty and well-being of all classes of society, and more especially of the wages class. Within a few weeks of this statement, and as if to give it the strongest and most indisputable confirmation, and whilst the American Republic has disbanded the troops engaged in her great civil war, an Army Organisation Bill has been passed by the French Imperial Legislature, increasing the French army to above 1,000,000 of men, on the ground that Italy can bring into the field a military force of 900,000 men; Austria, 1,200,000; Prussia and the Northern German Confederation, 1,300,000; and Russia, 1,400,000. Is it possible to conceive anything more portentously disgraceful to Christianity and civilisation, to the boasted advance of science and intellect, than this spectacle of so many European nations, professedly Christian, vying with each other in supporting out of the hard earnings of their people millions of organised man-slayers, whilst at the same time they are notoriously vying with each other in inventing more sure, deadly, and enlarged means of mutual destruction? Surely, in this the nineteenth century of the Christian era, the hour should be arrived for Christians to feel it to be their duty, if their faith be anything but a miserable sham and mockery before God and man, to love rather than slay one another, to promote each other's happiness, wealth, comfort, and welfare, rather than waste each other's resources, mangle each other's bodies, sacrifice by wholesale each other's lives, and plunge one another in misery and ruin. Surely the hour is arrived when the peoples of Europe should be wise, moral, and enlightened enough to unite in determinedly protesting against being any longer made the brute instruments of horrible mutual slaughter, and compelled to do the work of demons at the bidding of their insatiation and for the benefit, or to suit the policy, of dynasties, courts, or cabinets, kings, or emperors. Surely the hour is arrived for their insisting on being left, undisturbed by state quarrels and unwarmed by war taxes, to enjoy in peace and harmony the fruits of their labour, arts, and industry. What is our own position? In the last year of the life of the late Duke of Wellington our military and naval armaments cost 15,000,000*l.* annually, now they cost some 28,000,000*l.*, whilst thousands of our people are actually dying of starvation! We need hardly state farther reasons for

earnestly soliciting all the friends of peace and liberty in Great Britain and Ireland to enrol themselves members of, and give their active support to, the English Branch of the International League of Peace and Liberty.

EDMOND BEALES, President.
JOSEPH GUEDELLA, } Hon. Secs.
CH. CASSAL, }
WM. FRED. COWELL, Stepney, Treasurer.

THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.

Sir Robert Napier landed at Annesley Bay on the 4th. He was received by Colonel Merewether and General Staveley. Sir Robert proceeded forthwith to the front. The naval brigade was in course of organisation for immediate service. Other advices from Annesley Bay state that the Chief of the Tigre was friendly towards the expeditionary force. He had offered to victual them, and had already sent 2,000 bullocks for their use.

The supply of water at Annesley was abundant. Sir Stafford Northcote has received the following message from Colonel Merewether:—"Senafe, Dec. 28. Have visited Attegerat, distance thirty miles. Road can be made easy thither for mules and camels in a few days. Large market there every Monday. Water and grass abundant. Well received by population. Reported latest, 13th, that Theodoros has approached Lasta; the Wagshum advanced to oppose him, and that they are close to one another; Menelek twenty-five miles south-east of Magdala. Many reports, but none trustworthy. Epidemic among cavalry horses has disappeared. No further letters from captives."

Writing at Magdala prison, Abyssinia, on the 5th of November, to Mrs. Beke, Consul Cameron says:—"I have been ill, but the news that our soldiers are coming seems to have set me all right. I believe I have shot up two inches since the intelligence came. Pray God we may not be disappointed. The poor Metropolitan is dead. I feel it severely. He was a good friend to me and all of us."

A despatch from Aden of Jan. 4th, says:—"The Bengal brigade is now passing this point *en route* for Annesley Bay. Steamers from Abyssinia are hurriedly returning to Bombay, to bring up the remainder of the troops destined for the expedition. From accounts that have been received from Abyssinia it is believed that it will be absolutely necessary to employ force to effect the liberation of the captives."

Four locomotives will be shortly at work in Abyssinia upon the railway formed in connection with the English expeditionary force now in that country. Two of these locomotives were obtained from the Kurrachee Harbour works, one from the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway, and one from Messrs. Wells and Glover.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

On Wednesday the new Bishop of Lichfield, Sir Stafford Northcote, and the Dean of Westminster arrived at Osborne. At one o'clock Dr. Selwyn was introduced to the presence of the Queen by Sir Stafford Northcote, when his lordship did homage to her Majesty as Bishop of Lichfield. Princess Louise and Prince Arthur were present with her Majesty during the ceremony. The Dean of Westminster was in attendance as Deputy Clerk of the Closet.

Her Majesty is still frequent in her visits to West Cowes and other places in the neighbourhood of Osborne, and is generally accompanied by one or more members of the Royal family, and occasionally by some of the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, but her only guard, as a rule, consists of one or two outriders. The Queen is received on all hands with every demonstration of loyalty.

The Prince and Princess Christian, Prince Arthur, and Princess Henriette of Schleswig-Holstein, left Knowsley for Windsor Castle on Saturday. On Friday night they were entertained at a grand ball by the Mayor of Liverpool.

The Prince and Princess Christian arrived on Tuesday night at Tottenham House, near Marlborough, on a visit to the Marquis and Marchioness of Ailesbury.

Princess Mary of Cambridge and Prince Teck on Monday visited Stockton on their way to Wynyard Park, the seat of Earl Vane. The Mayor and Corporation received them at the railway station, and an address of congratulation was presented.

A Cabinet Council is to be held on Tuesday next at Lord Derby's official residence in Downing-street.

Mr. Traill retires from his position as police magistrate at Greenwich, and is to be succeeded by Mr. J. H. Pateson, son of the late judge.

The honour of knighthood has been conferred upon Professor Wheatstone, in consideration of his valuable services in the science of telegraphy.

Mr. Thornton, C.B., the Minister appointed to succeed the late Sir Frederick Bruce at Washington, left Liverpool on Saturday on board the Cunard steamer *Siberia*. Mr. Thornton's family will remain for some time in England.

Mr. Costa is, it is said, so seriously indisposed that (according to the *Musical Standard*) the Sacred Harmonic Society is unlikely to have the advantage of his services for some time to come at least.

Mr. Roebuck, M.P., has just written a letter to the secretary of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce, saying that he is now quite well and will be glad to attend at the forthcoming annual meeting of the Chamber.

Mr. Gladstone has declined the invitation to visit

Sheffield for the purpose of addressing the people on public affairs. The right hon. gentleman states that, having recently declared his views to portions of his great constituency, he does not think it would be for the public advantage that at the present time he should reopen the discussion upon the same or similar questions.

A grand amateur concert took place at Hawarden on Saturday night, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., being amongst the performers. The right hon. gentleman is not a bad amateur vocalist, and his musical efforts were rewarded with as much applause as his oratorical displays are wont to secure before popular assemblies.

A deputation from the Society of Friends, consisting of Josiah Forster, John Hodgkin, J. B. Braithwaite, and others, had an interview with Lord Stanley at the Foreign Office on Monday on the subject of the slave-trade and slavery.

Professor Faraday's library will be sold early next month by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, at their rooms in Leicester-square.

Mr. Alderman Whetstone, the oldest member of the Leicester Corporation, died on Sunday morning. At the time of the Reform Act, Mr. Whetstone was a very active politician, and was well known throughout the midland counties as a strong supporter of the Liberal cause. Mr. Whetstone was more than once mayor of the borough, and might have been its representative if he would have accepted the honour.

The London correspondent of a Manchester paper writes:—"There is a vague rumour current in military circles that Lord Stanley urges on the Cabinet the policy of taking up a reform of the purchase system, as well as a unification of the War Department, with a view to the virtual subjection of the Horse Guards to the control of the Secretary of State. He is supported in these views, it is said, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and two or three others of his colleagues; but the majority pull hard the other way, and Lord Derby, as usual, has his joke at the expense of both, and is chiefly anxious to keep the divergent elements of his Cabinet together."

We regret to say that the health of Mr. Samuel Morley is far from good. He is seeking repose in the country. He was to have presided at the Reform League meeting on Tuesday. Mr. Beales, who occupied his place, said Mr. Morley's illness must be a subject of regret to thousands of those connected with him in business, and to many who had directly or indirectly participated in his great and multitudinous benevolence and charity. He was sure they would all concur with him in the expression of a sincere hope that Mr. Morley would speedily recover from his indisposition.

Earl Russell will publish in the course of next month "A Letter to the Right Hon. Chichester Fortescue, M.P., on the State of Ireland."

It is stated that Mr. H. C. E. Childers, M.P. for Pontefract, will succeed Mr. Massey as Financial Secretary for India.

Miscellaneous News.

THE LAW OF LIBEL.—Mr. Rigby Wason has obtained a rule nisi for a new trial in the case of his action against the *Times* for libel. Mr. T. Jones, Q.C., appeared for him on Monday, and the rule for a new trial, on the ground of misdirection, was granted without hesitation. The misdirection alleged is the statement of the Lord Chief Justice to the jury that parliamentary reports, supposing them to be fair and faithful, are privileged.

THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.—The proceedings at the Midland Railway meeting at Derby on Wednesday were animated and prolonged. Mr. Hutchinson, the chairman, said the directors would not oppose the appointment of a committee of investigation, provided it were composed of large shareholders, and exercised its functions in a friendly spirit. It was stated that the directors did not see their way to abandon any of their projects, or to reduce the amount of the additional capital required, but that, on the contrary, the probability is that 6,000,000l. will be ultimately wanted, instead of 5,000,000l.

LIFEBOAT SERVICE IN 1867.—Of all the stormy periods which have found work for our lifeboat fleet, and which have tried the mettle of the brave fellows by whom it is manned, perhaps none have exceeded in violence and destructiveness those of the past year. It is satisfactory to know that noble services have been rendered by the boats of the National Lifeboat Institution during that disastrous period. The list just published shows a total number of lives saved during the past year by the lifeboats of the institution of 785, and a grand total of 16,987 rescued through its instrumentality since its establishment.

BRADFORD LIBERAL ELECTORAL ASSOCIATION.—A conference of representatives of the Liberal party in the various wards of the borough of Bradford was held on Tuesday evening in the Temperance Hall at Bradford, to confer as to the organisation of a new association to promote the extension of Liberal principles under the new Reform Act, when, as is estimated, the constituency will be increased from 5,000 to 20,000. There were no fewer than 200 delegates present, representing every known political organisation in the borough. Mr. Robert Kell occupied the chair, and stated that it had been the desire of the promoters of the meeting, who had prepared resolutions for the consideration of the meeting, to present such a programme as would conciliate every section and shade of Liberal opinion,

and promote perfect unity amongst the Liberal party. A resolution embodying the principles of the proposed society was then proposed, and its various clauses were afterwards discussed seriatim, and ultimately, after some amendments and alterations, was adopted with a declaration of the principles and objects of the society.

TELEGRAPHS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.—It may be interesting to our readers to know the total length, approximated at least, of the telegraphic lines throughout the world, and the proportion which exists in each of the several countries in which this agency of correspondence has been adopted. The total length of telegraphic lines in the world is 178,086 miles. In 1866 there were in Germany 28,347 miles of telegraphs; in Russia, 22,992; in France, 18,694; in Great Britain and Ireland, 16,297; in Turkey, 8,665; in Italy, 8,216; in Sweden, 3,507; in Belgium, 1,089; in Switzerland, 2,160; in Canada, 5,050; and in the United States, 52,957. Besides these, there are the two Atlantic cables, which measure 4,369 English, or 3,755 nautical, miles. The total length of the other submarine cables is nearly 6,000 miles. One of the most marvellous examples of the value of telegraphic communication was afforded on the recent occasion of Mr. Gladstone's tour. The addresses delivered at Southport and Ormskirk contained 16,882 words. The report of the speeches reached Liverpool by train at 11.25 p.m. The transmission to London by telegraph began at 11.30 p.m., and was completed at 1.40—that is to say, in little more than two hours. The last slips were delivered at the offices of the daily papers before 2.30. Mr. Gladstone's speech on the following day at Oldham contained 30,745 words, and was transmitted with corresponding rapidity.—*Times*.

BABY-GANGERS.—Mr. Benson Baker, one of the Poor-law medical officers of Marylebone, has under his present charge one of the children who survived the care of Mrs. Jagger, and who, he says, is something over three years old. This child, three years old, was employed by the proprietress as a gaffer or ganger over the younger babies. His duties were to sit up in the middle of the bed with eight other babies round him, and the moment any one of them awoke to put the bottle to their mouth; he was also to keep them quiet, and generally to superintend them. This baby ganger has quite the appearance of an "old hand"; he is intelligent beyond his years, quite grave and thoughtful. He knows all about "Mother Jagger" and her doings; also about the "old babies" being put in the box, and "new babies" being brought by "Mother Jagger." When the baby ganger was not officially employed, he was tied in a little chair (he cannot walk), and placed beside the fire. One day "Mother Jagger" had a "drop of gin," so his baby informant tells Mr. Baker, and the baby-ganger fell into the fire, and as he was tied into the chair he could not crawl away, and "Mother Jagger" was powerless to help him. His pinafore caught fire, burnt the ends of four of his fingers off one hand, and partially destroyed the muscles on the inner side of the other arm. This baby will thus be more or less incapacitated from ever earning a living.—*British Medical Journal*.

A PORT'S LOST DAY.—At the Marylebone County Court, a few days ago, Mr. Page, Italian warehouseman, of Westbourne-grove, sued Mr. Robert Browning, the poet, for 8s., the value of two bottles of port wine. Plaintiff said that formerly defendant was a customer, but lately the custom had been taken away. A lad called on the 8th July last and said Mr. Browning wished to have two bottles of port wine, and as he (plaintiff) had previously known the lad to be in defendant's service, he let him have the wine on credit. Mr. Browning, in defence, said he had not dealt with plaintiff for two years. He never drank port wine, nor did any one else in the house. He never ordered it from any one. On the 8th of July, when the bottles were alleged to be given to his page, that lad had been in his service for six months. He was shown to plaintiff at the time of his making the demand, and he then shuffled in his statement, and said it was another lad who had called. Mr. Browning concluded an indignant speech by calling his housekeeper and page, both of whom deposed they had never ordered or received port wine from plaintiff or anybody else for Mr. Browning's house. His Honour (Mr. Jessel) said plaintiff had not shown a proper amount of caution in his dealings, and judgment would be given for defendant. Mr. Browning said he had lost the whole day in connection with this paltry claim, but he resisted it on principle. He wished his costs to be appropriated to the poor-box of the court, for which he was publicly thanked by the registrar.

WAR AND POPULATION.—We are really not surprised that the French Chamber became alarmed at the prospective effect which Marshal Niel's proposals for reorganising the French army might have on the progress of population. The amendment allowing soldiers to marry after the sixth year of service was carried by an enormous majority, spite of the marshal's strenuous resistance. Marshal Niel would absorb a very large section of the manhood of France into the army, and compel it to forego all thoughts of marriage for many years. As medical men, we venture to say this would be a very suicidal measure. It may be an amusing piece of banter to urge that the women of France ought to be contented with husbands drawn from the army rejections—the halt, the lame, and the blind; and to add that a squint or a club-foot is no bar to a man's becoming a husband, but a decided obstacle to his ever making a soldier. But this does not touch the root of the matter, which involves a problem of a physiological character; and

it is this: that, had the marshal's proposal been adopted, a diminished and degenerate population must succeed the present generation. And if France is to maintain her present great military position she cannot afford this. At the close of the great wars under the First Napoleon the strongest and healthiest part of the race of young men in France were well-nigh exhausted, and the rejections from military service formed the staple of her male population. Doctors and physiologists know full well that to possess an enormous standing army, with stringent restrictions as to marriage, is to draw a bill on the future population—to say nothing of the vast increase of disease and immorality directly traceable to the same source.—*Lancet*.

NATIONAL FREEDMEN'S AID UNION.—On Monday evening, a farewell meeting with Mr. Wm. Forster Mitchell, for several years a superintendent of freedmen's schools in North Alabama and Tennessee, but who has for some months been in England, labouring for the freedmen, on the invitation of the National Freedmen's Union, was held at Devonshire House, Bishopsgate-street, the chair being occupied by the veteran anti-slavery leader, the venerable and excellent Mr. Josiah Forster, of Tottenham. Tea was served to between thirty and forty ladies and gentlemen, after which addresses were delivered by the chairman, Mr. John Taylor, honorary secretary to the Union, and Mr. L. A. Chamerovzow, secretary of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society; when the following resolution was carried unanimously, on the motion of Mr. Stafford Allen, seconded by Mr. Arthur Albright, honorary secretary of the Union, supported by Mr. Robert Alsop and Mr. Taylor:—

That this meeting desires to record its strong sense of the value of the indefatigable labours of Mr. William Forster Mitchell on behalf of the freedmen while in this country on the invitation of the National Freedmen's Aid Union; and hereby assures him of its high esteem, as well as its best wishes for his safe return to his family and country, and for his success in the high and responsible mission of labouring for the social and Christian elevation of the coloured people of the United States of America.

Mr. Mitchell delivered a feeling and able reply, and the meeting was also addressed by Mr. William Tallack, secretary of the Howard Society, Mr. William Craft, &c. The whole of the proceedings were of an exceedingly interesting character.

ICE STORM ON THE CHILTERN HILLS.—A correspondent writes:—"These hills were on Saturday visited by an ice storm of unparalleled severity. After some days of frost, the wind of Friday veered from north to south, and the barometer rapidly fell. Early on Saturday rain began with half a gale of wind; this continued, more or less, all day. Having occasion to pay a visit on the top of the hills, I started about 12 a.m., when it was raining fast, and blowing hard; the rain, instead of running off my umbrella, froze as it fell. I do not believe that a single drop during the three hours I was out left it, and when I returned home it was one bright sheet of ice. The trees and hedges were covered with ice to the thickness of half an inch in the more exposed places. I brought a twig home, which on carefully weighing was found to be ten parts ice to one of wood; this was by no means an exceptional case. The trees were frozen so stiffly that, in spite of a strong wind, they stood perfectly motionless, with the exception of the birches and evergreens, which scattered a shower of ice at every blast. The houses and buildings were coated with ice on their southern aspects, giving an appearance of a glass glaze; the glass in the windows was also thickly coated. But the icicles on the gates produced the most extraordinary effect, every bar of it being covered with ice, from which were suspended rows of icicles six inches long. These could be counted by hundreds—not hanging straight down, but all inclining, at an angle of about thirty degrees, with the most perfect regularity, to the north, or away from the wind. The blades of grass and dead thistles which projected through the snow were incased in ice to a great thickness; the snow, also, was coated with a thick coat of ice, which made walking very fatiguing on the steep side of the hills. The noise was very peculiar as the wind shook the ice from the trees; instead of remaining where it fell, it went rattling to the bottom, and meeting with the projecting frozen grass the noise was great. The general aspect of the country was such as to defy my powers of description. It was as if every object had been suddenly dipped in liquid glass, and not until late at night did the south wind rain gain the mastery, when the ice fell in heaps under every tree."—*Times*.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The arrivals of English wheat fresh up to this morning's market were limited, and in very middling condition. Good dry samples sold slowly, but at prices equal to Monday. Low and damp qualities were very dull, and almost nominal in value. There was a full average supply of foreign wheat on the stands. Sales progressed slowly; nevertheless, the quotations were supported. The demand for floating cargoes of grain was in a sluggish state, on former terms. The small quantity of barley brought forward was disposed of at previous rates. Malt was in good supply, and fair request, at full prices. Oats were a slow inquiry, at Monday's currency. The supply was good. We have no change to notice in the value of either beans or peas. Flour, seeds, and cakes were a dull inquiry.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.					
	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English & Scotch	1,550	840	1,560	—	1,880
Irish	—	—	—	70	—
Foreign	29,070	1,000	—	8,830	1,860 ake, 9,660 bbls.
					Maise, 2,680 qrs.

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Each additional Line Sixpence.

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Published by ARTHUR MIALI (to whom it is requested that all Post-office Orders may be made payable), 18, Boulevard-street, Fleet-street, E.C.

Advertisers of all classes will find THE NONCONFORMIST a valuable Medium for their Announcements.

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The Nonconformist.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1868.

SUMMARY.

SIR ROBERT NAPIER is now in Abyssinia, where his presence has probably restored something like order amongst the troops and their many camp followers. According to one account, he will certainly have to fight for the rescue of Theodore's captives; according to another, he is sending back ships to fetch the remainder of the Bombay troops! They all it seems want, as Mr. Osborne says, "to be kept in wind." Perhaps in another month the expedition will be ready to advance from Senafe towards Magdala. But long before this heterogeneous force has crossed the intervening mountains, the King will have encountered the powerful native chiefs that block his path. Should the Abyssinian Sovereign defeat both Menelek and Waagshum Gobazie, he will be able once more to possess himself of the prisoners at Magdala, and perhaps be ready to fight his British invaders. "Can we not penetrate to the fastnesses of Abyssinia with a smaller and more lightly attended army?" bitterly asks the *Times*. "The force that can best make its way through the country will be most likely to strike a heavy blow against the enemy, and to release the captives from his grasp." Though Lord Stanley, during the recent Session, said that the last hope of a pacific arrangement rested with the good offices of the Viceroy of Egypt, our military authorities at Massowah seem to be quite irritated at the mere chance of such a settlement.

No fresh Fenian outrages or threats are reported, and it is evident that the Government are completely getting the upper hand of the conspirators. During the week they have arrested in Dublin a man named Lennox, who is believed to have shot the two policemen in that city, to have been planning a "spring campaign" in Ireland, and to have been the intimate friend of "Colonel" Kelly. He has been committed for trial on the grave charge of high treason. The police have also produced some further evidence against the Clerkenwell prisoners, included O'Keefe in the indictment for "wilful murder," and succeeded in tracing the barrel of gunpowder. Mr. Digby Seymour is urging the signing of the proposed address of loyal Irishmen to the Queen, which he hopes will be not only a moral protest against revolution, but an appeal to the employers of labour in England against assuming that all Irishmen whose opinions are unknown are at heart Fenians. In some places the Irish in England are not waiting for such tardy measures. The rumour of the existence of Fenian sympathisers in Shrewsbury induced the Irish Catholics of that town, headed by their priest, to present an address to the police-magistrate denouncing Fenianism, and declaring their willingness to be sworn in as special constables. In other places meetings to denounce this secret conspiracy are being held.

The leaders of the trades-unionists of London having come to the conclusion that Mr. Gladstone has adopted erroneous conclusions as to their objects and principles, the right hon. gentleman has courteously invited them to a personal conference on the subject. Though it is not likely that they will be found to agree, such a friendly interview cannot fail to have good results. At Sheffield, another "rattening" case has taken place in the Sawgrinders' Union,

and though it appears that the majority of the society think such acts of violence necessary to sustain their combination, the committee threaten to resign if they are persisted in. It seems that all the Sheffield unions are languishing because of the great increase of non-union workmen—a sure sign that the late disclosures have produced a wholesome effect.

The Army Organisation Bill, fixing the standing army at 800,000 men, and the reserves of all kinds at another 450,000, has passed the French Chamber by a large majority. There could be no doubt of the result in an assembly which is mainly composed of the nominees of the Government. But the Emperor must regard with some dismay the largeness of the minority. On ordinary occasions the Opposition cannot be reckoned at more than a dozen members. But when the Bill was carried on Tuesday, no less than sixty were bold enough to vote against it, though it had been previously amended so as to prohibit the substitute system in the formation of the new National Garde Mobile, which will bear with full force on the upper classes. There is no doubt that the general opinion is dead against the fatal policy of the Emperor, and that public indignation is aggravated by the severe general distress throughout the country. M. Emile de Girardin gives expression to the public feeling after this caustic fashion:—"Is not this hunger which clamours so loud in all directions a warning to Europe that she has more useful and more urgent things to do than to augment her *cadres* and her armies? If it is not to make war, why do we augment our army? And if it is to make war, what are we waiting for? Between amputation before or after gangrene, no one who is not either a fool or a coward can hesitate."

The Italian Prime Minister declares, with evident truth, that "the peril which menaces Italy is not yet removed." So serious, indeed, is the danger, that the more moderate section of the Opposition is disposed to rally round General Menabrea as the only hope of the country. His Financial Minister, Count Cambray-Digny, has to deal with a deficit for the last year only of sixteen millions! How he will meet the deficiency it is difficult to see. In strict equity Garibaldi ought to be called upon to cope with the crisis he has created. Italy is so heavily taxed that fresh burdens do not produce fresh resources. There is talk of a loan in Paris; but such a plan means submission to Napoleon III., and a renewal in some form of the September Convention. When, as the Italian Premier says, "recent events have emboldened the reactionary party to conceive schemes for the division of Italy," it is evident that France, if she wills, has it in her power to dismember the kingdom she created.

The continental papers are just now greatly exercised relative to the Eastern question. From Paris we learn that France, England, and Prussia have addressed energetic remonstrances to Serbia against her warlike demonstrations; from St. Petersburg that Russia "demands the co-operation of the European Powers in promoting the welfare of the Christian subjects of Turkey, by which the occurrence of a catastrophe will be averted"; from Vienna, that the fire-eating General Ignatieff has reassured the Austrian Government of the Czar's pacific intentions; from Constantinople, that considerable uneasiness prevails. The fact that Prussia joins in deprecating aggression in the East does certainly, as the *Paris Patrie* says, tend to "frustrate any efforts of a nature to disturb the peace of Europe."

The chronic conflict between Mr. Johnson and the Congress has taken a turn unfavourable to the President. He has been dismissing at will the generals who command in the South, apparently because they are not zealous enough in support of his views. But the Senate having required the reinstatement of Mr. Stanton, General Grant has suddenly resigned, and the former War-Secretary, though appointed by President Lincoln, has gone back to his old office without hindrance. The step thus taken by General Grant is important as indicating that he disapproves of Mr. Johnson's policy, and it looks like an acceptance in advance of his nomination for the Presidency by the Republicans.

THE MANCHESTER CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION.

MANCHESTER has, unquestionably, earned a title to speak with some authority to the country on the question of national education. For many years past, and long before public opinion was ripe for the adoption of its views, Manchester took a prominent, we may even say a foremost, position in reference to this matter. The two associations, one intent on secular, the

other on denominational, education, which had their centre in that city, worked so zealously and so efficiently for their respective objects, sympathised and co-operated with each other over so wide an area, held their peculiarities with so catholic a spirit, and showed such readiness to subordinate them to their main purpose, that, between them, they have constituted Manchester the head-quarters of the educational movement, and have given to the voice of that manufacturing metropolis on this question a claim to respectful attention from the whole country. The Conference which has been held there this week, convened by the Manchester Educational Committee, and attended by representative gentlemen from all parts of the kingdom, will, no doubt, command for its decisions more than ordinary deference; and it is in this spirit that we venture to say a word or two on its proceedings.

We crave permission to express the opinion that the present is not the fittest possible time for settling a permanent scheme of national education. The last Session of a Parliament which will have to give place to a successor of a much more widely representative character, does not strike us as presenting the best occasion for moulding into definite form the mass of opinion now pervading in a nebulous state the mind of the public on this subject. We could have wished to wait until the great body of working men had acquired a constitutional right to influence the council of the nation in this matter. It is one in which they have a special interest—one, moreover, upon which they are understood to look from a stand-point differing somewhat from middle-class promoters of national education. They are already electors *in posse*—next year, in all likelihood, they will be called upon to exercise the right of franchise which law has conferred upon them. We cannot recognise the necessity of forestalling the fullest expression of their views on a subject so vitally affecting the well-being of their class. We do not say, for we do not think, that their counsels, whatever they may be, should be regarded as imperative—but we submit our opinion that they should be heard, and allowed their proportionate weight. They would certainly have assisted in bearing down existing obstacles to a broad national system. They would have given increased strength and courage, and moral influence, to those leaders of political thought who are least fettered by educational prejudices—and, since some compromise between what is and what ought to be, is indispensable, we cannot but wish that in framing that compromise the representatives of the working men had a voice.

The gentlemen whose influence seemed to be most readily, and, we may add, most deservedly recognised by the Conference, are placed by their past labours far above all suspicion of a desire to hurry forward to premature conclusions. It may be, however, that the very intensity of their interest in the education of the people, may act upon their decisions with a somewhat misleading effect. When earnest men who have been many years at work for any public end, see what they have so long laboured for almost within reach, they are brought under a powerful temptation to catch at the first overture made from the other side, and to accept what can be immediately carried rather than hazard the consequences of a little further delay. We cannot impute blame to them. We are fully able to sympathise with them in their motives, and to view their determinations with respect. Still, we cannot help seeing that if Parliament is urged on to a settlement by compromise of the educational question this Session, the predominant authority in shaping the terms of that settlement will be not the broader but the narrower, not the national but the denominational, not the popular but the official authority. Conservatism will undoubtedly be more disposed, because it will be more competent, to insist upon inconvenient conditions just now, than it would be in the first Session of a reformed Parliament—and Liberalism will consent to larger sacrifices to immediate exigencies than it would do were circumstances as favourable as they probably will become at no remote date.

We make no claim of right on behalf of those who have until recently objected to State interference with education. Looking, however, not to what they may or may not be entitled to expect, now that they have frankly surrendered their position, but to the additional power they can bring with them to a liberal educational policy, it is worth considering whether the interim between the present time and the next general election, if allowed them for settling among themselves the kind of machinery and action they would prefer to go in for, would be altogether lost. We believe the sentiment of the greatest number of them

would incline them to throw their efforts into the scale which seems at this moment to be regarded as an insufficient counterpoise to clerical and sectarian dictation. We entirely agree with the Rev. R. W. Dale, of Birmingham, who, in a letter read to the Conference, said, "What before all things nine Congregationalists out of ten would prefer, would be a national system, locally administered, of secular education. . . . There are many of us, however, who feel that it would be alike unjust and inexpedient violently to break up the present schools; and we are anxious to discover the best method of conciliating the claims of those who have worked hard under the present system, with what seems to us the imperative necessity of introducing a broader and bolder scheme." What Mr. Dale has said of the Congregationalists, may be said with equal truth, we think, of several other Dissenting communions. And it may be that, should conclusions be postponed until they, as well as the working classes, have had time to give precision to their altered views, the chances are that a maturer and more efficient measure than any likely to be assented to next Session would eventually be passed.

The Manchester Conference passed a resolution on Wednesday morning last, in favour of a re-introduction to Parliament of Mr. Bruce's Bill of last Session, "with such modifications as may be deemed desirable in conference with the Education Bill Committee, to render it more complete, or to lend their support to any Government measure based on similar principles." We shall not presume to question the practical wisdom of this decision, supposing it to have been necessary that an immediate decision should be arrived at. It is perhaps the best that could have been taken, regard being had to relative forces as they now stand. To a large extent it consecrates the existing Privy Council grant-in-aid-system, though it permits a resort to an educational rate in places where the ratepayers choose to betake themselves to it, and, as we understand, will compel a rate where educational destitution is not otherwise met. Mr. W. E. Forster owned that last year he consented to a purely permissive measure, not because he thought it would ever meet the whole case, but because he thought public opinion, and the opinion of the House of Commons, had not arrived at the point of consenting to more than a permissive measure. "But their cause," said he, "had made great progress since last year." Just so, and it is still making great progress. Are we quite sure that while opinion is in this course of rapid transition, acquiring daily increased depth, breadth, and force, we are doing the most expedient thing in at once stereotyping it? May we not thereby stop its expansion, and stunt its form? The question, as it seems to us, properly belongs to a reformed Parliament, and, on the whole, we cannot but think, might have been properly reserved for it. Nevertheless, should Mr. Bruce's scheme, supplemented by Mr. Forster's suggestion as to the compulsory rating of destitute districts, be passed, we will still hope that the germ of a sounder system which it contains, will, under a favourable social influence, gradually develop itself, and eventually overshadow what is narrow and unsound, as well as what is ineffective and inadequate, in the Privy Council system.

PRINCE ALFRED IN AUSTRALIA.

It is extremely amusing, not to say instructive, to read the accounts of the reception of the Duke of Edinburgh, by the public in the colonies of South Australia and Victoria. Every one knows that there is a certain fluid called "invisible ink," the characters written in which remain imperceptible, until the paper on which they have been traced is held before a fire, when they come out to the eye with remarkable distinctness. It would seem that our emigrants take out with them a certain sentiment of loyalty for which, in the distant country of their adoption, they have little use, and which, therefore, makes but a faint, if any, show of itself in the ordinary circumstances of colonial life. But let a Royal Duke approach them, and out comes a demonstration of enthusiastic devotion to the Throne. Our antipodean kinsmen have fairly given us a companion picture—a real contrast—to that which we have recently received from the other side of the Atlantic. They have proved themselves almost as enthusiastic, as extravagant we were going to say, in their loyalty to the Crown and kingdom of the old home, as the Fenians have been fierce in their resentment and disaffection. To have been able to forget politics, and that at a time when public affairs were at a dead-lock, to have rushed with heedless liberality, far beyond the

limits of financial expenditure which they had originally prescribed for themselves, to have set aside all business and swarmed and huzzaned around every available point from which the sailor son of Queen Victoria could be seen—these are but insignificant items of the excitement which carried them away. That excitement was nearly as great and universal as used to be witnessed in former days, when gold-fields were freshly discovered, and everybody was off to the "diggings." Nevertheless, the modes and expedients by which the colonists expressed their delight were singularly English, showing that while our countrymen change their clime and their sphere, they retain their habits, their feelings, and their old ways of expressing them—down to the inevitable massing of Sunday-school children in a body to scream a welcome to the Royal visitor, and to sing, more or less in tune and time, the National Anthem.

Well, it is not an affair over which to be critical. The story of it, taken altogether, is a very pleasant one. It has its moral too. We, at home, may be suspected of a disposition to sycophancy, in giving loud expression to the sentiment of loyalty, as if, under cover of showing our attachment to the Sovereign, we were really indulging our own taste for vanity. Not so our fellow-subjects on the nether side of the globe. There must be something real, deep, and enduring in the sentiment which has thus moved them. They have seen, if we may so say, but a reflection of Her Majesty—a scion of the Royal house. They can hardly be suspected of feigning what they did not feel, or of going out into the sunshine of the Prince's presence merely that they might minister to their consciousness of self-importance.

Loyalty is no mere factitious, artificial, or evanescent feeling—it has its roots far down in the elements of human nature. It may be misdirected at times, as at times it may be developed in excess. But the nation which does not sedulously cultivate it, in some one or other of its forms—which does not cherish some ideal of the authority of law, and rejoice to do it homage—which is not attracted towards the centre in which the spirit of rule is transformed from the abstract to the concrete—in a word, which gives no personal direction to its love of order, justice, protection, and national unity—is not to be congratulated, we think, on a superiority in its exercise of reason, nor generally, as far as our acquaintance with history will serve us, on the practical results it obtains by means of its fancied exemption from weakness.

But really our Australian kinsfolk had much to express in their reception of the Duke of Edinburgh above and beyond anything which symbolism would excite in them. They were anxious, no doubt, to show, not merely reverence to the Throne, but hearty love to the Queen. Her virtues in the guidance of her family life, her wisely affection for her chosen husband, her simplicity of taste in the joint pursuit with him of daily enjoyment, her profound and prolonged affliction at being called to part with him, her watchful good sense in the training of her children, her quick sympathy with whatever stirs the hearts of her subjects, her inflexible adherence to constitutional principles,—all these have silently made their impression upon the colonists, and have awakened in their bosoms a fervent love for the Queen. Added to this, there was doubtless a yearning to give utterance to the satisfaction they feel in continuing their connection with the mother country. Then, of course, they were anxious to discharge worthily the duties of hospitality to their princely guest. Altogether, they have acquitted themselves as the folks at home would have had them do, and are proud of them for doing. In honouring the Queen's representative they have not only evinced the fulness of their own loyalty, but have earned the thanks of all other parts of the Empire.

"FREE TRADE IN LAND."

"I HAVE fought one great battle, but there is another left behind that will require greater efforts perhaps to achieve a triumph, and that is to secure free trade in land." These were amongst the last words spoken to Professor Fawcett, by the illustrious statesman over whose premature loss to his country all genuine Liberals have mourned. The member for Brighton has caught Mr. Cobden's mantle, and pledges his utmost efforts to carry on his uncompleted mission. His lecture the other night, on "The Future of our Rural Population,"—one of the useful Reform League course—is the fruit of this intention. To follow at length in Mr. Fawcett's footsteps would require more space than we have at command. But it may be useful briefly to consider one or two things in connection with a problem which will cer-

tainly ere long become one of the questions of the day.

What strikes every thoughtful mind in respect to this land question is the fact that in this country the condition of the peasantry seems to be irrevocably fixed as by a law of nature. We hear of great changes in the relations of property brought about in the course of events, of the transfer of estates from old families to *parvenus* capitalists, and of the results of the land hunger, which prevail in England as well as elsewhere. But we should as soon expect to learn that any of our labourers had become proprietors of any portion of the soil they cultivated as that private soldiers rose to be generals in the army. It is an inversion of our ideas. Nevertheless Professor Fawcett tells us:—

We were too much accustomed in this country to think that our land system was like that which existed in other parts of the world. We had landowners, farmers, and labourers. In the United States land was so cheap that no one ever thought of renting it. There, and in our colonies, land was sold at so low a rate, and the wages of labour so high, that with ordinary thrift a labourer soon acquired a considerable estate. Then look at the Continent. In Prussia, owing to the reform carried on at the close of the last century by Baron Stein and others, the serfs were converted into peasant proprietors, who were loyal and contented, and who cherished the institutions of the country because they had a stake in the country. Whether they went to Belgium, to Flanders, to Prussia, or to Lombardy, they would find that where the land was cultivated by peasant proprietors a much greater amount of happiness was attained than was attained in our own country.

"But it is the difference of circumstances that creates the anomaly," says the champion of things as they are. "There is so much competition for land in England, that it will inevitably fall into the hands of capitalists—the highest bidders. Would you interfere with the working of this natural law?" To this question Mr. Fawcett would reply that this statement of the case is not correct. The great mass of the land is *not* held by the moneyed classes, but is kept as a monopoly, by artificial expedients, in the hands of certain great families, which families have, time out of mind, practically governed the legislation of this country. Those who hold the views of Mr. Fawcett do not contend that these great landowners should be compelled to sell their estates, but that any laws which bolster up their monopolies should be abrogated. Right or wrong, beneficial or injurious, it is only equitable that this system should not be upheld by class legislation. Mr. Fawcett thus states the case:—

This aggregation was simply due to two causes, the law of primogeniture and the power of entail. If a man died possessed of railway shares or money in the funds the law said it should be divided among his children, but if his property were in land it must all go to his eldest son. They might say a man might make a will, but the fact was that this law produced a powerful indirect effect in keeping up the custom of primogeniture, and if something better than they had yet heard could not be urged in its defence he hoped that the people, now that they had popular rights, would demand its abrogation. Then with regard to entails. An estate which was entailed could not be brought into the market, and that had the effect of giving a fictitious value to the land that was offered for sale, inasmuch as it limited the quantity in the market. Another result of entailing estates was that it prevented improvements being carried out upon the land. But there was another circumstance which gave a monopoly value to land, namely, that hitherto, in this country, great political influence had been associated with the ownership of land, and therefore when a man purchased land part of the purchase money represented the agricultural value and part the political influence that was attached to it.

With the land monopoly is, in our view, involved the maintenance of game laws to enable our landed gentry to "butcher large quantities of half-tamed pheasants," of irresponsible county magistrates, and of the assumed right of landlords to the votes of all employed on the soil. It by no means follows that, with free trade in land, England will soon or ever secure a peasant proprietary. The claim is not that estates should be divided, but that they should not be tied up by favour of law in the hands of of certain families.

The condition of the agricultural labourer is depressed, because he has no chance. Taking the class as a whole, they cannot rise above a condition little superior to that of serfs. They have no special interest in the cultivation of the soil. They are, in effect, closed in by impassable barriers erected by landlord selfishness, or prescription founded on legislation. If the condition of the farmer is more hopeful, it is not because of legal protection, but because estate-owners do not find it expedient to enforce their extreme pretensions, and because property is held to have its duties as well as its rights.

Already we hear the cuckoo cry raised against Mr. Fawcett by a clerical landowner that he wants to fetter free trade in land—that is, to prevent the owners from disposing of it as they please. But is this charge true? The Cambridge professor says he only wants to abolish the law which provides that all intestate estates should go the eldest son alone, and the law

to abrogate of entail. "A Hertfordshire Incumbent" declares that these enactments have practically little effect. Why not then repeal them? Why commence this outcry as soon as any one proposes so small a change? If England has different land laws from the rest of the world, and they yet produce no perceptible result, would it not be a sensible course to alter them? Would their abrogation be any interference with the rights of property? If not, why does "A Hertfordshire Incumbent" endeavour to create the impression that it would?

THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

It seems strange that the largest group of our colonial dependencies—for India is not a colony in the proper sense of the word—should have been formed into a confederation, and that the united Parliament of the Dominion of Canada should have held its first Session, without exciting more than a passing notice in the mother-country. It is still the fashion to know nothing of the New World in polite society. When he was at Edinburgh, Mr. Lowe complained that many a highly muscular and polished young gentleman, whose education had been completed at Eton, or even on the banks of the Cam or the Isis, and who could compose Greek verses, scan to perfection, and was quite familiar with the map of ancient Greece or Rome, would be at a loss to explain Mr. Bright's allusion to the Cave of Adullam, and find it hard to point out Abyssinia on a map of the world. Perhaps the public is now somewhat familiar with the territory of King Theodore, but we question if many Englishmen know or care much about the Confederation of British American States, its population, resources, or prospects. We are acquainted with the politics, intrigues, and gossip of Florence, Vienna, Pesth, and Constantinople, and can trace the course of events in Japan, Cabul, and Afghanistan; but how many of our best-informed politicians have more than a cursory knowledge of the great Transatlantic Republic, or could point out the position of Ottawa, the new capital of the Canadian Dominion?

Nevertheless the attempt to combine under one Federal Government the subjects of Queen Victoria in America is a matter of real consequence to the mother country, and one which must ere long engage public attention. The union of these provinces has been formed under the sanction of an Act of the Imperial Legislature, the first Session of the united Parliament has been held at Ottawa, and a number of important measures have been passed, but the immediate results are not so satisfactory as could be wished. The new constitution elaborated for British North America does not work well, and may yet break down.

It has long been the unfortunate habit of Canada—a habit fostered, we must confess, by the Colonial Office—of acting upon the maxim which Canning has immortalised,—

The fault of the Dutch
Is—giving too little,
And asking too much.

England has been too much regarded as a milch-cow by our Canadian fellow-subjects. We give everything, but get nothing in return—not even gratitude. One of the reasons of hurrying forward this Confederation in the thoughts of British statesmen was to save England from the onerous burden of defending her American provinces. But our troops, at an expense to ourselves of at least a million sterling, are still in Canada, and while they remain, it does not appear probable that our shrewd and exacting brethren will take any effectual steps to provide for their own defence. A good round sum of 250,000*l.* has also been voted by the Imperial Parliament (practically we suppose a gift) to carry out the Intercolonial Railway, which will open up a line of communication between Canada and the maritime provinces, but we are told that "every indication points to another great political job, at the expense of the mother country." This boon was granted in the hope that it would tend to create that community of interests among the colonists which is now so necessary to the success of the Federation.

Some of the measures passed by the United Legislature during the late Session are not calculated to promote a cordial feeling in England, or a good understanding among the members of the Dominion. The mother country has long been a sufferer from the protective policy of Canada. She is used to such treatment. Up to 1866 our manufacturers had to pay a toll of from twenty to five-and-twenty per cent. to our colonial fellow subjects. This was subsequently reduced to a tariff five per cent. less. By one of the few Acts passed by the Ottawa Legislature, the Canadian scale of

duties, ranging from fifteen to twenty per cent., becomes the scale of the entire Confederation, and by its operation a considerable class of English goods which came freely into the maritime provinces under a ten per cent. tariff, will be almost shut out. For relationship's sake, we must pocket the loss and the ingratitude.

But the same policy seems also adapted to retard that amalgamation of interests which the Act of Union was designed to promote. It was inevitable that there should be a uniform tariff throughout the new Dominion, but the Parliament has unfortunately decided in favour of the Canadian protective system, notwithstanding the strenuous opposition of all the Nova Scotia members, with one exception, and a majority of those from New Brunswick, who prefer a liberal commercial policy. At the very outset of the Confederation, an ominous antagonism of interests has been revealed. The Canadian majority has overridden the members of the maritime provinces, and passed Custom and Excise Bills which will, according to Mr. Galt, increase the taxation of these territories some fifty per cent. A large section, if not the majority, of the colonists in Nova Scotia, were from the outset averse to the Confederation scheme, on the ground that they had nothing in common with the Canadas, from which they were separated by immense tracts of unoccupied territory. The local Government and Legislature are now about to petition the Crown in favour of separation, and it appears probable that the New Brunswickers will follow in their footsteps.

To what extent this secession movement will proceed does not yet appear. But it is manifestly unfair that the Confederation scheme should be carried out solely for the benefit of the Canadians, who are able to outvote the other members of the United Parliament, and at the expense of their neighbours. Only mutual concessions can bring about that solid union which the Act was intended to effect. Prince Edwards' Island and Newfoundland still stand outside, and will not be encouraged to come in by such evidence of the selfishness of Canadian politicians. It may be that when the legislature re-assembles at Ottawa, in March, concessions satisfactory to the minority will be made by the Canadian members. But at present the North American Confederation is but little more than a name. Two important members of it, constituting the maritime provinces, threaten to secede; the Hudson's Bay Company naturally prefer their own independence; and British Columbia declines the honour of joining the union, and will perhaps ere long be absorbed by the United States. If this great federal scheme should eventually break down it will be owing not less to Canadian greed than to diversity of interests and geographical difficulties.

WEALTH.

THERE are very few of us who do not wish for wealth. There are more, many more perhaps, in whom the wish is comparatively inactive, and who might profess in good faith that they do not care about it, who nevertheless, if events should place them in a position for choosing whether they will be rich or not, would certainly make an affirmative choice. There must be something very attractive in wealth, or something strangely illusory in our conceptions of it, that men's desires so uniformly go out after it. And yet what is wealth? When we were at school, sixpence a week was wealth to boys of our own age or thereabouts. To many a poor man an annual income of two hundred a-year would present a prospect of unbounded wealth. And yet there are many to whom five thousand a-year would be regarded as poverty. What was once looked forward to as an ample fortune is often looked back upon as a miserable pittance. This is one of the cases in which distance magnifies instead of diminishing what is before one. The sum total grows smaller and smaller, in relation to the mind's estimate of it, in proportion as it is approached, and appears least when you grasp it. Wealth, then, is no positive quantity. It becomes what it is merely by comparison. The standards by which it is measured are variable standards, having relation chiefly to a man's present desires. More than one know what to do with their wealth; only, as means increase, knowledge of the ways in which they may be employed widens also, so that people seldom acknowledge to themselves—whatever in ostentation they may confess to others—that they are rich enough.

Most of us imagine that it would be very "nice" to have it in our power to do whatever we should now like to do, but are without the means of doing. It must be so "nice," we think, to have a good house, rich furniture, spacious and well-kept grounds,

fine horses and carriages, plenty of servants, a hospitable table, a full cellar, a mind devoid of care for the future, and an exemption from the necessity of daily work; so "nice" to stay at home when we please, to travel when and whither we prefer to go, to be looked up to with respect without being at any great trouble to earn it, and, in fine, to give a holiday to our desires whenever they ask for one. This, or something like this, is what most folks wish for under the name of wealth—a state of circumstances which will admit of their pursuing self-gratification without being obliged to wrestle with the difficulties which stand in the way—life, with all its enjoyments, and with none of its anxieties or struggles. And most of us fancy in our hearts that money can purchase us these things, and therefore it would be so "nice" to have wealth. It hardly ever occurs to us that when all these things are at our command they lose their ability to satisfy us, and become as commonplace, as little noted, as empty of life-giving capability, as any of the humbler things which we already possess.

Wealth, nevertheless, is power, that is to say, within a certain limited range. "Money is a defence," said the wise monarch—it shields one from a multitude of disagreeable assailants. It clears the path for us from rugged stones, overlapping briars, petulant nettles, and other annoyances of the kind; it cuts steps for us in steep places, and removes out of our way rocky projections; but it gives us nothing in the shape of life, energy, elasticity, endurance, courage. It re-arranges for us our circumstances, but it does not alter us. We remain what we were, whether on the mountain-top or in the plain—with the same limitation of faculties, the same stores of knowledge, the same susceptibilities and sympathies, the same impulses, tendencies, principles, character. How, then, is wealth power? The answer to that question depends very much upon ourselves. It is enjoyment in the ore, which it rests with ourselves to extract. In its crude state it yields us very little, and unless we have in our own aims, motives, purposes, the capability of separating the precious metal from the dross, it cannot add very sensibly to our intrinsic worth. Many a man, on comparing himself when rich with what he was when poor, sighs for the former days, and is driven to acknowledge that he has but increased his cares and sorrows, and that life, true life, "consisteth not in the abundance of things which he possesses."

Yet is wealth power to those who will use it as such—a power which a great heart may wield with marvellous effect; and which, so wielded, comes back to him in the richest kind of enjoyment? What it can do, and what it cannot do, for a man, tells but the old, old story—that he who would find his life must lose it. We must go out of ourselves to be ourselves in any lofty sense. No man can truly call that his own which he has not himself made his own—none are really happy who have not earned their happiness by self sacrifice. "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty." The real power of wealth is its power to bless—and blessings, as well as "curses, like chickens, come home to roost." Wealth is consolidated labour. It can do no more for us than labour can—and the extent to which labour can be made to contribute directly to a man's enjoyment, is very limited at best. But whoever has it in his power to diffuse among his fellows the advantage of a hundred or a thousand men's stored-up labour, is potentially a hundred or a thousandfold more of a man than he otherwise would be, and possesses a proportionate capacity for happiness. If he chooses to live in others, his own life will be enormously expanded. For whatever goes out of him in the way of benefaction returns to him in the shape of satisfaction. Help freely given is always help received. Worth imparted is worth increased. It is thus that wealth becomes power, not only to ameliorate the condition of others; but, in so doing, to enrich our own souls.

Wealth, then, is a legitimate object of desire—as legitimately so as knowledge, wisdom, or any other merely instrumental qualification—and, of course, if it may be lawfully desired, it may be lawfully pursued. None will affect to despise it but such as have it not, and, generally speaking, a loud profession of contempt for it, argues a lack of those qualities which are requisite to turn it to good account. But even in the possession of a man anxious to make it serviceable to others, the value of the instrument depends greatly upon the thoughtfulness and care with which it is employed. Mere open-handedness is not always fruitful of good—it may be, on the contrary, an undesigned but prolific cause of evil. It tends to create the very thing which it is meant to destroy. No man has a right to throw away his means, even in

generosity; nor will they yield him, in doing so, more than a temporary gratification. Our liberality when most ungrudging ought to be most painstaking. The distress which comes to the rich for alleviation is often less poignant as well as less deserving than that which stays away, and strives to hide its own nakedness. What multitudes of cases occur, not in the highways of poverty, but in its unfrequented paths, in which a little assistance, timely and delicately rendered, would remove mountains of care, and relieve anguish of heart far more intolerable than any that exposes itself to the public eye! What a blessedness might not a wealthy man earn for himself by using the ingenuity of compassion in finding out these stricken deer, and healing their wounds, and restoring them to light, freedom, peace, and the power of pushing their way! Giving is itself a pure and exquisite luxury; but the seeking out of the fittest objects upon whom to bestow what he has to give renders the exercise of benevolence incalculably more remunerative to the giver, and brings him much nearer in character to Him of whom it is recorded that "He went about doing good."

Few of us have wealth in the general acceptance of the term; and few of us, perhaps, would be the better for it if we had it. But we may all acquire the spirit which the highest uses of wealth demands. We may all seek to please others rather than ourselves, and reap the reward of bearing one another's burdens. A show of sympathy is often as soothing to the way-worn sufferer as a gift of money, and charity is reckoned to us, not according to what a man hath not, but according to what he hath. In this sense—perhaps the best one—love is wealth; and he is the richest man who loves the most. For love makes means for itself where it finds none, and the greater the abundance of means the greater need there is of love to employ them rightly.

Miscellaneous.

THE BUSINESS OF THE MESSRS. CROSSLEY AT HALIFAX, which has been converted into a shareholding company, has yielded for 1867 a profit of 170,749*l.*, enabling the declaration of a dividend of 15 per cent., with a large balance towards the reserve fund.

DWELLINGS OF THE POOR.—The report of the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company (Limited) adopted at the annual meeting on Tuesday, states the total subscribed capital is now 88,350*l.* of which 7,122*l.* has come in since the date of last report, and that the operations of the society with their various blocks of buildings have been successful. The revenue account shows a sum to credit of 1,795*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, and the directors proposed the usual dividend of 5 per cent., carrying forward a balance of 327*l.* 7*s.*

MR. GLADSTONE ON TRADES UNIONS.—Mr. Gladstone's speech at Oldham contained what the trade unionists are pleased to designate "erroneous statements as to their objects and principles," and a meeting of delegates was held on Tuesday night at the Bell Inn, Old Bailey, to take the matter into consideration. Mr. Potter, who occupied the chair, read a letter from Mr. Gladstone, who said: "In my speech at Oldham I stated that unions of working men were in themselves rather to be commended than otherwise, and that if any objection were to be taken it must be to the abuse, and not the use of such associations. I then objected broadly, for myself, to all rules which tend to limit the freedom of labour, or to produce an artificial equality among workmen, and this mainly on the ground of the injury which they do to the working class. On these and all other points I am very desirous to be corrected and instructed by those better informed than myself, but I could not attend any public meeting for that purpose, while I should be most happy either to receive and consider any written argument in answer to what I have said, or to hear any documents from persons who might be appointed, and freely to converse with them in a friendly spirit, as men who should have a common object in view, under the condition, however, that they would be good enough to select and state those propositions of mine which they might consider to call for animadversion." The following resolution was carried: "That this meeting of trade society delegates form a deputation to Mr. Gladstone, as suggested by that gentleman in his letter read this evening, to defend and explain to him the real principles and objects of trade unionism."

POISONED GOOSE.—On Tuesday last Dr. Lankester held an inquest on the body of an elderly widow named Clements, who, according to the evidence of a toxicologist, and the verdict of the jury, died from the effects of eating a goose on Christmas-day. It appears, and we are sorry to be assured of the fact, that amongst our "tame villatic fowl" the goose is not to be depended on. It is not safe to dine off it without some assurance as to its way of living, and especially the regularity of its diet. Where these are not properly looked after its fat is apt to become poisonous. Like will to like; and so this silly bird, it seems, is fond of "fool's parsley," among other vegetable poisons. There is this, however, to be

said for the creature's sake: the weed to which it is partial does not hurt the bird, but only makes its flesh noxious to those who take it for food, and it is supposed that the goose which was fated to cost this poor woman her life had indulged its tastes too freely. Another alternative was suggested by the medical witness. The geese which are sent in such numbers to London during the week before Christmas arrive in many cases so closely packed that decomposition is brought on, and they poison whoever eats them. Professor Julian Rodgers, who examined the stomach of the widow Clements, found no poison, but very evident traces of its action, and the jury found that the poor lady was poisoned accordingly. We hear nothing of the origin of this particular goose; but it is well known that a great many are sent from Ireland. If it is not too late, Inspector Buckett might look a little further into the matter.—*Daily News.*

Gleanings.

Six persons died from intemperance during last week in London.

The strike in the iron trade of South Yorkshire has terminated, the men going in upon the masters' terms.

In California female servants get from 20 to 30 dols. a month, and labourers from 50 to 125 dols. per month.

Notwithstanding the cold weather, the deaths in London last week were 225 less than the estimated number, namely, 1,574.

A married couple in Tennessee, and another couple in Alabama, have recently separated because of difference in politics.—*American Paper.*

A grateful Iowa undertaker writes to his friend, "If you ever want a coffin, call on me. I shall be only too happy to bury yourself or your family at cost."

Viscount Ranelagh has been fined twenty shillings for smoking in a railway-carriage on the Metropolitan line, no smoking being allowed on that railway.

A clergyman says that at church some people clasp their hands so closely in prayer, that they are unable to get them open when the contribution-box comes round.

On the approach of Holy Week, a fashionable lady said to her friend, "We must mortify ourselves a little." "Well," replied the other, "let us make our servants fast."

A young man who was about jumping from a train while in motion was deterred by a reporter, who asked for his name, age, business, and residence, for an obituary item.

In the Cyclades the male inhabitants are chiefly brought up to the business of sponge-diving. No young man is allowed to marry until he can descend with facility to a depth of twenty fathoms in the sea.

A lady who has a great horror of tobacco got into the Newhaven cars the other day and inquired of a male neighbour, "Do you chew tobacco, sir?" "No, ma'am, I don't," was the reply, "but I can get you a chew if you want one."

"What part of speech is man?" said a pedagogue to a sailor-boy pupil. "A verb, sir," replied the latter. "A verb, is it?" said the teacher; "please give an example." "Man the yards!" was little Tarpaubin's instant response.

DROPPING THE H.—Rowland Hill made a good remark upon hearing the power of the letter H discussed, whether it was a letter or not. "If it be not," he said, "it will be a very serious affair for me; for it will make me *ill* all the days of my life."

The eldest of the lionesses in the Zoological Gardens, Dublin, has given birth to six healthy cubs. Within the past ten years upwards of fifty lion cubs have been born and reared in these gardens. The cost of maintenance at the present day of a lion or lioness is about 3*s.* 7*d.* a day.

It is stated that the reconstruction of her Majesty's Theatre has already commenced. The estimated cost is nearly 250,000*l.*, and according to the arrangements promised, the theatre is to be ready for occupation by the 25th of March, 1869. It is to eclipse in grandeur every other opera-house in Europe.

THE MAN FOR IRELAND.—We have had sent to us a riddle which we do not remember to have heard before. If it be new, it is strange that it is not old; if it be old, it is strange that it should be always new. The problem is, "My first, when he makes my second, calls himself my whole"; and the solution is, *Patriot*.—*Athenaeum.*

Chignons have fallen; those abominations have at last come to grief, and there is scarcely one to be seen in all Paris. The fiat of fashion has gone forth, and chignons are abolished. The new way of doing the hair is to roll it up into a large flat cartwheel on the top of the head, coming to within an inch of the forehead. It requires no artificial aid.—*Ladies' Own Paper.*

SLIGHTLY CONFUSED.—In a lecture on "Eloquence," recently delivered at Boston, Mr. Ralph Waldo Emerson told an anecdote:—"Dr. Charles Chauncey, famous as a Boston clergyman a hundred years ago, was once told, while on his way to his weekly Thursday lecture, that a boy had just been drowned in the frog pond on the common, and the good doctor was requested to 'improve' the sad event in his prayer and remarks. The announcement had so unfavourable an effect upon the doctor's presence of mind that he was entirely unable to get any nearer the subject in his prayer, after repeated efforts, than to pray that 'the Lord would bless all little boys that had been drowned in the frog-pond that day.' There was no lack of talent and ability in this man; but

his presence of mind was unable to stand the test of a sudden pressure. So great was the doctor's dislike for sensational preaching that he was accustomed to pray that he might not be eloquent—a prayer which was answered."

AN ICY PHENOMENON.—"H. L. M." writes from Blackheath on Saturday—"A interesting and curious phenomenon was observable this afternoon. Rain had fallen for some hours; and a frost supervened upon which every leaf was covered with a coating of ice, having an icicle depending from the tip. On gently bending back this, I found that the whole icy coating separated clear away from the leaf without breaking, being a *fac-simile* of the leaf in ice, with every vein and indentation clearly marked. I collected a small tray full of these delicate, transparent, leafy casts, which appeared as if moulded in glass, and retained all the form and character of the leaves from which they were severally taken, holly and ivy being the most effective."

A PUZZLE BY TELEGRAPH.—As a matter of curiosity we present to our readers the following specimen of the form in which despatches via the cable are sent to this side of the Atlantic. It will be seen that the recipient of the despatches has quite a problem presented for solution when he receives them. Here is the specimen alluded to:—"Joseph gone home." "Sunday baldi with thirty five hundred two guns went attack Tivoli held by Papals met six thousand Papals well posted who opened artillery fire desperate fight forty five minutes baldi retired fight renewed rotondo lasted two hours half baldians utterly routed loss four hundred fifty killed nine hundred prisoners no count wounded papals loss two hundred killed hurt." "One division French left Rome for Civita rest soon follow await there action Italy bourse animated but general disarming needed to restore confidence French call if conference soon issues flora baldi claims American citizenship marsh goes to see him vignevans eraldini commands army observation quarters Trisa nugent braman featherstone coffy Martinacquitted manch."—*Panama Star and Herald, Nov. 23.*

HEAT WITHOUT COAL.—Recent scientific discoveries should do much to lessen the alarm of those who fear the exhaustion of our coal-fields. Mr. H. W. Pond, of Newark, U.S., remarks that economists have speculated on the possible discovery of some method of producing heat independent of coal, and the decomposition of water has been regarded as a probable expedient. With our present knowledge and appliances it appears not to be difficult to realise this proposition, even in competition with coal—at least in a small way. The agents are obvious—wind-power, a magneto-electric machine, oxygen and hydrogen gasholders, and the electrolysis of water. The result would be that oxygen and hydrogen would be available for the production of the heat which would be required. For use in the arts the oxy-hydrogen furnace would, of course, offer advantages far above any other known, and results could be reached impossible with the lower temperature of the coal fire, while the flame would be free from deleterious substances common to coal. Owing to its gaseous form, and the intensity of its heat, this fuel would be manageable in many ways impracticable with coal. For instance, seams could be hard-soldered with great rapidity with the jet of the compound blow-pipe, and it is probable that the joints of steam-boilers could be heated for welding in a suitable oxy-hydrogen jet.—*Mining Journal.*

MR. GEORGE DAWSON ON THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—Mr. George Dawson has been lecturing at Birmingham on what he saw during his recent visit to Paris. The following is an extract:—"He was at the Exhibition when it was visited by tens of thousands of the French peasantry—good, honest, ugly, God-fearing people, dressed as hideously as a Birmingham man going to a fair, and monstrously close—living for six months on what a Birmingham working man would spend on a Saturday night or two. The Birmingham working men, it was said, were going to send a member to Parliament, and pay him 500*l.* a year. They would not do: he was satisfied they could not do it in his time. He knew one or two manufactories where they could easily raise 500*l.* in a fortnight—it would be a mere fraction of their wages, an 'unconsidered trifle'; but there was such pressing claims on the Birmingham working man for beer-drinking, morning, noon, and night. With that duty incumbent upon him, how could the Birmingham working man save money? The French peasants—miserable wretches!—were not able to earn a quarter as much; but then they had not that oppressive duty of beer-drinking to perform, and so they could have money hid away in the garden, up in the roof, in bits of soap, in the seams of their trousers, the hems of their petticoats—anywhere and everywhere. There was one thing, however, that the Paris Exhibitions told him and which it repeated in a thousand forms, and it was this: That unless the workpeople of England were better educated, they were doomed to go down before the French and Germans. Their manufactures were solid, but they lacked delicacy and finish. All that tools, stuff, work, capital could do the English had used up, but they wanted brains—less beef and more brains, less beer and more sense. There were endless matters in which the Germans were passing the English. Would any sensible man bring up his boy as a chemist in this country? or educate his son as an artist in England? No, the chemist must go to the laboratories and teachers in Germany; the artist must go to Kaulbach, to Dusseldorf. England had to choose between decadence and complete ascendancy. Nothing could save this country, as a manufacturing country, but more education, more schools, more brains, more delicacy. Without these she must go down; catechisms would not save her."

Literature.

THE QUEEN'S DIARY.*

There will be few of Her Majesty's subjects who will not be gratified to learn that she has been in the practice of keeping a journal—a daily record of her personal and family history. There is something pleasing in the thought that our children's children of remote generations will probably have in their possession the best possible representation of the inner life of the Sovereign towards whom it is quite as much the delight as the duty of her subjects to cherish and exercise affectionate loyalty, and that the outline of it has been sketched by her own hand, in picturesque descriptions of scenes and circumstances amidst which she has moved, and in natural and unreserved expressions of the feelings they awakened in her breast. Had we of the present age been fortunate enough to have received a mirror in which we could see reflected, not the bodily form, but the personal character, of any of England's former queens, animated, moreover, by a constant play of emotions, now gleaming gladness, now shaded with sorrow, but always revealing what was passing in the mind or swaying the heart of the imaged Sovereign, we should have esteemed the inheritance as beyond all price. We can well understand the advantage which our descendants will have over us in this respect. But we also have our advantage over them. If we cannot look back upon the past as they will be able to do, we have what probably no other people ever had—an opportunity of studying royal life in the present. The Queen has been pleased to admit her subjects into intimate companionship with her, and has indulged them with the pleasure of being taken with her as guests for a time in her Highland home, and as fellow-travellers in some of her public excursions. And we learn from her own lips—or more correctly speaking, her own pen—what she thinks and feels, as we accompany her through the scenes she has so pleasantly described.

We see no reason for hesitating to make the confession that we have been fascinated by this volume, and that in reading it we have all through been made to feel the witchery of its charms. The secret of its power does not lie in its literary style, though that is artless, brisk, and sketchy, as a journal of incidents not written with the least idea to future publication, ought to be. Nor does it reside in anything romantic, or even extraordinary, in what is narrated, though that is not altogether without a spice of adventure. It is difficult, perhaps impossible, to say precisely whence the excitement arises with which the perusal of these pages fills the mind of the reader. No doubt, it satisfies the craving of a very excusable and very lively curiosity as to the homelier details of royal life. But that is not the kind of satisfaction which the book produces—at any rate, that is not the chief kind. The enjoyment is rather one of sentiment than of curiosity—it will not be very wide of the truth to say that it is one of sympathy and affection. To most of her people the Sovereign of this empire occupies a position so exalted above their own, that the main characteristics of it are only imagined, and hence are pictured in a light suggestive of tones of mind, states of feeling, trains of experience, and modes and combinations of action, quite different from those with which they are themselves familiar. The beauty of this book is that it brings the Queen so very near to us—that it so multiplies points of contact between her soul and ours—that it presents us with such an increased area over which sympathy with her is easy, and oneness of sentiment and emotion is spontaneous on both sides. It makes us enter into her pleasures, share her joys, participate in her anxieties, and feel the pulsations of her womanly heart. It gives to our apprehension the "one touch of nature," which, as our dramatist tells us "makes the whole world kin."

The gratification is enhanced by the fact that the tastes of the Queen have made those things precious to her which are also most precious to us. In the pomp and state with which she is necessarily conversant we could be with her only as strangers—they constitute an atmosphere which would act oppressively upon most of us. But upon these the Royal journalist seldom dwells—never with any show of delight. It is among the mountains, the heathery slopes, the wooded ravines, the tinkling burns, the broad moors, the solitudes of nature, that she

prefers to go, and there, *en famille*, give full freedom to the thoughts and emotions inspired by the contemplation of "the wonderful works of God." Away from the busy haunts of men, away from prying eyes and flattering tongues, wherever she can converse with natural loveliness, grandeur, and even severity, she evidently loves to wander, and it is there that the simplicity and purity of her tastes become most conspicuous, and most infectious. We no longer wonder at her ardent affection for Balmoral, or at the sensible joy with which, year after year, she gets away at last from the artificial glare and monotonous bustle of public life, and revels in the quiet enjoyments and pursuits of her Highland home.

But we have not yet formally introduced the volume to our readers. This, perhaps, we can best do in the words of Mr. Helps, the editor:—

"During one of the editor's official visits to Balmoral, her Majesty very kindly allowed him to see several extracts from her journal, relating to excursions in the Highlands of Scotland. He was much interested by them; and expressed the interest which he felt. It then occurred to her Majesty that these extracts, referring, as they did, to some of the happiest hours of her life, might be made into a book, to be printed privately, for presentation to members of the Royal family, and her Majesty's intimate friends; especially to those who had accompanied and attended her in these tours. It was then suggested to her Majesty by some persons, among them a near and dear relative of the Queen, and afterwards by the editor, that this work, if made known to others, would be very interesting to them as well as to the Royal family, and to her Majesty's intimate friends. The Queen, however, said that she had no skill whatever in authorship; that these were, for the most part, merely homely accounts of excursions near home; and that she felt extremely reluctant to publish anything written by herself. To this the editor respectfully replied that, if printed at all, however limited the impression, and however careful the selection of persons to whom copies might be given, some portions of the volume, or quite as probably incorrect representations of its contents, might find their way into the public journals. It would therefore, he thought, be better at once to place the volume within the reach of her Majesty's subjects, who would, no doubt, derive from it pleasure, similar to that which it had afforded to the editor himself. Moreover, it would be very gratifying to her subjects—who had always shown a sincere and ready sympathy with the personal joys and sorrows of their Sovereign—to be allowed to know how her rare moments of leisure were passed in her Highland home, when every joy was heightened, and every care and sorrow diminished, by the loving companionship of the Prince Consort. With his memory the scenes to which this volume refers would always be associated. Upon these considerations her Majesty eventually consented to its publication."

Having now bid the book a hearty welcome, and laid before our readers the introduction it brings with it, we think they will thank us if we step aside, and let it speak for itself. We have said that the Queen is fond of nature. Her husband was equally so, even if, to some extent, he did not awaken in her the intense interest she felt in communing with it. Thus, she writes of Balmoral in 1856—

"Every year my heart becomes more fixed in this dear Paradise, and so much more so now, that all has become my dearest Albert's own creation, own work, own building, own laying out, as at Osborne; and his great taste, and the impress of his dear hand, have been stamped everywhere. He was very busy to-day, settling and arranging many things for next year."

Nor has her Majesty been wont, even in scenes so much to her taste, to lose her interest in human nature. We should like to have copied the sketch she gives us of visits paid by her to some of the old women dwelling on the estate. Our space, however, forbids our doing more than will bear testimony to the pleasure she took in this kindly and disinterested work. "Really," she says, "the affection of these good people, who are so hearty and so happy to see you, taking interest in everything, is very touching and gratifying." The tenacity of her Majesty's memory she inherits from her family—but it is not every one who recalls details of long gone-by visits with such lively emotions as are here described. "Vicky," it will be borne in mind, is the Princess Royal of Prussia.

"We drove through an avenue, and in a few minutes more were at the door of the old castle. A thousand recollections of seventeen years ago crowded upon me—all seemed so familiar again! No one there except the dear Duchess, who stood at the door, and whom I warmly embraced; and Miss MacGregor. How well I recognised the hall with all the sporting trophies; and the staircase which we went up at once. The Duchess took us to a room which I recognised immediately as the one where Lady Canning lived. Here we took off our things. Then went to look at the old and really very handsome rooms in which we had lived. The one in which Vicky had slept in two chairs, then not four years old."

Some of the Queen's mountain excursions necessarily led her and her party into localities where very poor accommodation could be had. Sometimes, as on the occasion described below, the family made their greater excursions in the neighbourhood of Balmoral, *incog*. Here is a description of a night spent at a road-side inn on one of these more extended tours.

"The mountains gradually disappeared,—the evening was mild, with a few drops of rain. On and on we went, till at length we saw lights, and drove through

a long and straggling 'toun,' and turned down a small court to the door of the inn. Here we got out quickly—Lady Churchill and General Grey not waiting for us. We went up a small staircase, and were shown to our bedroom at the top of it—very small, but clean, with a large fourpost bed, which nearly filled the whole room. Opposite was the drawing and dining-room in one—very tidy and well-sized. Then came the room where Albert dressed, which was very small. The two maids (Jane Shackle was with me) had driven over by another road in the waggonette, Stewart driving them. Made ourselves clean and tidy, and then sat down to our dinner. Grant and Brown were to have waited on us, but were 'bashful,' and did not. A ringleted woman did everything; and, when dinner was over, removed the cloth and placed the bottle of wine (our own which we had brought) on the table with the glasses, which was the old English fashion. The dinner was very fair, and all very clean—soup, 'hodge-podge,' mutton broth with vegetables, which I did not much relish, fowl with white sauce, good roast lamb, very good potatoes, besides one or two other dishes which I did not taste, ending with a good tart of cranberries. After dinner I tried to write part of this account (but the talking round confused me) while Albert played at 'patience.' Then went away to begin undressing, and it was about half-past eleven when we got to bed."

Occasionally, as might be expected, the attempts made to conceal her Majesty's rank, led to some fun.

"Already, before we arrived there, we were struck by people standing at their cottage doors, and evidently looking out, which made us believe we were expected. At Kingussie there was a small, curious, chattering crowd of people, who, however, did not really make us out, but evidently suspected who we were. Grant and Brown kept them off the carriages, and gave evasive answers, directing them to the wrong carriage, which was most amusing. One old gentleman with a high wide-awake was especially inquisitive."

One more quotation and we have done. It is in a somewhat different key from those which have preceded it, but our readers will like it none the less.

"October 14, 1855.

"To Kirk at twelve o'clock. The Rev. J. Caird, one of the most celebrated preachers in Scotland, performed the service, and electrified all present by a most admirable and beautiful sermon, which lasted nearly an hour, but which kept one's attention riveted. The text was from the twelfth chapter of Romans, and the eleventh verse, 'Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit, and serving the Lord.' He explained in the most beautiful and simple manner what real religion is; how it ought to pervade every action of our lives; not a thing only for Sundays, or for our closet; not a thing to drive us from the world; not 'a perpetual moping over 'good' books, but 'being and doing good'; 'letting everything be done in a Christian spirit.' It was as fine as Mr. M'Leod's sermon last year, and sent us home much edified."

That this truly Christian spirit may guide her Majesty in all her ways, and to the end (may it be yet far off!) of her earthly course, will be the earnest prayer put up in her behalf, of all her loving subjects whose religion is better than a name, and soars above mere denominational distinctions!

MARSHMAN'S HISTORY OF INDIA.*

The author of this work modestly informs us that it is a "compilation undertaken at the request of the University of Calcutta to assist the studies of those who were desirous of competing for its honours"; and that it has been published in this country in the hope that it "may be found useful by those who are in search of a brief and compendious narrative of the progress of the British empire in India." Where there is so complete an absence of all pretensions to originality, the severity of criticism is disarmed, and the book can only be treated according to the author's estimate of its merits.

At the same time an honest compilation on so vast and eventful a theme as the history of India must be a great boon to the British public at any time, and specially so just now, when India has become an integral part of the empire; when a new and Reformed Parliament is expected to legislate on broader and juster grounds than those which have dictated the policy of the past; when every householder, as well as every representative, ought to have some acquaintance with the history, condition, and requirements of a country on whose future weal or woe his vote will inevitably tell. Possibly, for the great majority of the newly enfranchised, such a work as the present may be too voluminous—although we know from personal observation that there are thousands of working men who would deem it, in that respect, a mere trifle—and a more compendious history would better suit both their capacity and their taste; but if this work has been well and honestly done, it is in itself no mean achievement, and will assuredly repay the author for the time, the diligence, the research, and the numberless pains of all kinds involved in its execution.

The first requisite in a popular history—a history for the use and guidance of the people

* *The History of India from the Earliest Period to the Close of Lord Dalhousie's Administration.* By JOHN CLARK MARSHMAN. Three Volumes. London: Longmans, Green, Reader, and Dyer.

* *Leaves from the Journal of our Life in the Highlands, from 1848 to 1861.* To which are prefixed and added Extracts from the Same Journal giving an Account of Earlier Visits to Scotland, and Tours in England and Ireland, and Yachting Excursions. Edited by ARTHUR HAY. London: Smith, Elder, and Co., 1868.

—is truth. The facts and events recorded; the character, principles, aims, and policy of persons and parties delineated; and the results of social observances and public measures on the condition of the people described, should all be reliable. But this is no easy matter. The author has furnished an example of the difficulty of discovering the truth, be the inquiry never so honestly conducted, when it has been obscured or perverted by personal or party prejudice. The difficulty is all the greater when the ground has been gone over before by preceding historians who have failed to perceive the truth, and when a compiler like our author has to make up his history mainly from theirs. This example is worthy of being noticed for the sake of the general caution it suggests in relation to Indian history, and also for the sake of our author himself, whose truthfulness is evinced by the manner in which he deals with an historical falsehood, although given by him at first as a truth, so soon as he has discovered its true character.

The case is that of Sir Thomas Rumbold, who was Governor of Madras in 1778, 1779, and 1780, during the administration of Lord Hastings. Mr. Marshman devotes two or three pages to the state of affairs at Madras during his tenure of office, and has nothing but evil to say of him. Every paragraph is an indictment. He charges him with almost every offence of which a Governor is capable: with having a nature trained up in the school of corruption—with insubordination to the Court of Directors—with receiving enormous bribes and making appointments to office accordingly—with reckless disregard of British interests—with violation of treaties entered into with native princes—with creating hostilities by his crooked policy—with bringing about a war with Hyder Ali by his follies—and, finally, with deserting his post in a crisis of imminent danger in order to escape a sentence of ignominious expulsion passed on him by the Court of Directors. All this, and more, is laid to the charge of Sir Thomas Rumbold in the text of Mr. Marshman's history. Not a hint is given as to any possibility of mistake or exaggeration. Preceding historians are unanimous in blackening the character of the Governor of Madras. A compiler of history can only follow where there is such a leading. There can be no mistake when the case is so clear; and this man, at least, or rather this wretch, must go down

"To the vile dust from which he sprang,
Unwept, unhonoured, and unsung."

But now comes the Nemesis—in the same volume, but in the appendix. It is not always that we have the falsehood and the refutation in such close company. At the end of Volume I. there is a note extending over more than five closely-printed pages, of which the following may serve as a specimen:—"Since this volume was sent to press, the author has been favoured with a large and valuable collection of papers, compiled from original correspondence, and from printed records long since forgotten, relative to the administration of Sir Thomas Rumbold at Madras, and intended to relieve his memory from the obloquy which has rested on it for nearly half a century. A careful perusal of this compilation forces the conclusion that the charges brought against him by Colonel Wilks and Mr. Mill were based on erroneous information and partial investigation. The statements regarding his proceedings, which are now received as historical facts, and the authenticity of which the author of this volume never suspected, are not, as it would appear, to be relied on, and this chapter of Indian history requires to be written afresh. The interests of historical truth demand this candid admission, and render it necessary to place before the reader the clear explanations which these documents afford, of various points on which his conduct has been impeached." After this general recantation, the author proceeds to the various articles of accusation brought against Sir Thomas Rumbold, and adduces proofs that they are all unfounded. Not one remains—not even the last. "In reference to the desertion of his post on the eve of the war, and the resentment of the Court of Directors, the papers show that the measures of Sir Thomas Rumbold had been uniformly commended by them, and that the first censure of his conduct, which was also accompanied by a sentence of deposition, was written three months after they had received his resignation and appointed his successor, and that his retirement from India was rendered imperative by the advice of the first physicians in Madras."

So much for this case of gross misrepresentation which Mr. Marshman would have perpetuated but for the accident of his lighting upon the "collection of papers," by which means alone, it seems, any real refutation could

come. Our histories, not of India merely, but of England and of the world, are full of parallel examples. Authors in quest of a subject, and in particular authors who are given to history, may find here one ready made to hand, which, so far as we are aware, no one has yet worked—a subject all but inexhaustible. Such a "Nemesis of history" would deal largely with great names and reputations as well as with humbler ones; scarcely an era or nation that would not furnish its tributary illustrations; scarcely a history, from that of the Peloponnesian war of Thucydides, down to that of our own country by Macaulay, that would not suffer by the searching process. Indeed, the last-named has lost somewhat of its value by the manner in which its author dealt with the memory of William Penn; neither is it too much to say that the commencement of Mr. Hepworth Dixon's popularity as a writer was connected with his persistent vindication of the founder of one of the most honoured of the sects of modern times.

Happily for Mr. Marshman, he has not waited for another Hepworth Dixon to do justice to a reputation which his history has misrepresented. At the risk of marring in some respects the work he has published to the world, he has hastened to repair the wrong committed, and has thus shown his regard to truth above all other considerations. We have in this sufficient reason to accept his statement that "so far as historical truth can be discovered, he is prepared to vouch for the accuracy of the facts detailed in it, and he is not without a hope that his efforts to present an impartial and trustworthy opinion on the various transactions which have been the subject and the sport of party feeling, may be found not altogether unsuccessful."

After a careful perusal of these volumes, we can bear witness to the general accuracy and impartiality of the narrative. A large portion of the first volume is devoted to the early history of India, from the remotest periods of antiquity, before the invasions of Darius and Alexander, and through the successive Hindoo and Mahomedan dynasties, down to the time of the first settlements of the English in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. To those who are acquainted with Mr. Elphinstone's standard work on this period, Mr. Marshman's first seven chapters will appear as only a brief sketch. But they are, after all, amply sufficient for a popular history, and are written with great spirit as well as power of condensation. The remainder of the work is that which most interests Europeans, and Englishmen in particular—the story of the manner in which the inhabitants of a small island lying off the west of Europe became the masters of one of the largest, richest, most populous countries in the world; not by a sudden gigantic military invasion, such as was attempted with doubtful success by the Persians and Macedonians of an earlier period; nor by a series of expeditions, after the manner of the indomitable Romans; but, by the most unlikely of all beginnings, by an association of "merchants, ironmongers, clothiers, and other men of substance, who subscribed the sum of 33,130*l.* for the purpose of opening a trade with the East," an association chartered originally by Queen Elizabeth, known afterwards as the East India Company, "which confined itself to commerce for a hundred and fifty years, then took up arms in defence of its factories, and in less than a century established British sovereignty from the Himalaya to Cape Comorin, and from Peshawur to the borders of Siam." This is the story which Mr. Marshman has told, and with so much ability, in these volumes. We have followed him through the various periods traversed by his pen—from the establishment of the first factory in Bengal, in 1636, curiously enough through the influence of Mr. Boughton, the surgeon of one of the English ships, over Shah Jehan, the emperor, whose daughter he had restored to health, down to the mutiny of 1857—and we have found him a trustworthy guide. We have tested, in particular, those details which relate to policy, under the successive administrations from Lord Clive to Lord Dalhousie, and have found him in the main accurate and impartial. Possibly here and there some readers may deem him too tame, and even apologetic, where great wrongs have been perpetrated on the princes and people of India in the British name. It is not improbable also that some may take exception to the author's estimate of Warren Hastings and his administration, on the one hand, and of Lord Ellenborough and his government, on the other. At the same time, even they who differ from him in judgment will, we think, be the first to acknowledge the general fairness and candour that characterise his narrative, and the evident

conscientiousness with which he has performed his task. One thing is certain, namely, that Mr. Marshman does not belong to the old school, either in politics or religion. He does not hesitate to censure abuses, fraud, and injustice, wherever he finds them, however deep-rooted, and by whomsoever sanctioned. If he approves of the great judicial changes introduced by Lord Cornwallis in 1793, he unhesitatingly condemns as a "great and radical error" his exclusion of the natives of India from all offices civil and military, and points out the fatal effects of this exclusion in the "disrepute and inefficiency of the whole Administration." If he lauds in the highest terms the character, genius, and government of Lord Wellesley, whose "character was impressed on every branch of the Administration, and whose inspiration animated every member of the service in every department, and in every province"; he does not forget that he approved and perpetuated some of the errors of Lord Cornwallis, and finds it difficult to vindicate his annexation of the Oude territories in 1801 from the charge of arbitrariness and injustice. Then, again, on every subject relating to progress in the administration of justice to natives and Europeans—in education, in the freedom of the press, in the abolition of suttee and infanticide, in the propagation of Christianity, and kindred matters—we are never left to discover on what side his moral sensibilities and judgment are enlisted. His views on the question of the Serampore missionaries may be referred to as an example on the last-named topic, which he treats with discriminating brevity, and yet with the soundest judgment. We need scarcely add to these expressions of approval our satisfaction with the author's method of dealing with the more comprehensive and complicated question of the government of India in general, through the Court of Directors, the British Government, and Parliament, during the successive periods of Indian history, and in connection with successive charters, down to the abolition of the East India Company in 1858. On the whole, we can recommend Mr. Marshman's history as a safe guide to all who desire a correct view of our British rule in the East.

A few words on the style of our author, before we conclude this brief notice of his valuable work. It is just such as we might expect from a writer who is more intent upon matter than manner. He never attempts anything like fine writing; avoids all antitheses; has no time for embellishment; and does not even seek to be brilliant. And yet it is just such a style as a student of history can best appreciate. We forget the writer in his subject. The narrative flows on in a clear and transparent stream from the commencement to the close. On every theme, whether it be a battle or a matter of policy, a personal episode, or a general summary, the author wastes no words, but as briefly as may be, yet with as much clearness as is necessary, expresses his conception of the truth. Sometimes the details may be somewhat crowded, and may make the reading a little heavy; but in such cases the fault is with the subject rather than with the writer. Be the stream never so flowing, it cannot avoid the asperities which meet it in its course. Sometimes the reader might desire more enthusiasm, more extended description, more of the artist and poet, in some portions of the narrative, especially those in which great and decisive battles are the theme; but when we remember the extent of the author's subject, and that his object is rather to afford correct general views than to paint pictures, we shall not be in haste to censure him on this ground. Other histories, more voluminous, and entering more into details than this, will furnish the passages which some readers deem so indispensable. For our part we are satisfied and grateful for what our author has accomplished, and shall be glad to learn that the text-book of the University of Calcutta, on the subject of Indian history, has gradually found its way to the Universities, colleges, and working men's libraries of our own country.

MR. KIRKUS'S ESSAYS.*

These essays are admirable specimens of fugitive literature. Their style is direct and lucid; it is impossible to mistake Mr. Kirkus's meaning, or to fail to see it. They evince great quickness and often subtilty of insight; the arguments are full and well-conceived. The illustrations are always homely, apt and racy. Above all, the moral tone of the volume is high. Mr. Kirkus is sometimes needlessly sharp in criticism; he tends to intolerance of what is common-place in thought and character; but

* *Miscellaneous Essays.* Second Series. By the Rev. William Kirkus, LL.B. (London: Longmans, Green, Reader and Dyer.)

his sympathies are always with whatever is honest and thorough. It would be easy to multiply interesting quotations that would display all these characteristics; the following, from an essay on "Satire," originally contributed to the "Victoria Magazine," will serve as a sample of the book.

"It is surely unnecessary to prove that the people whom satire is meant to lash can be punished in no other way. This is proved by the very fact that they need satirising. For all manner of different methods have been employed for their amendment and even to prevent the necessity of their ever needing to be amended, before they have arrived at that particular stage of evil and mischievousness when chastisement becomes necessary. They have heard sermons, they have been presented with tracts, they have been surrounded with good examples, they have been surrounded by almost equally instructive bad examples, appeals have been made to their reason, appeals have been made to their conscience, appeals have been made even to their enlightened self-interest; and really there seems nothing left to be appealed to, excepting, so to speak, their skin. Let them then be well whipped with heavy thongs, or with little bits of knotted whipcord, as the case may require. And why whip them at all? does somebody ask. Why not let them alone? For the very simple reason that no human being can be let alone. You can no more let a human being alone, than you can let the middle joint of your finger alone. It is always fastened to the top joint and to the bottom joint; and if it should chance to go rotten, both these joints would have good ground of complaint."

There are occasional faults, both of style and argument, in the volume; faults indicating, perhaps, an excessive culture of the powers which the author finds it easiest to employ, and which a more rigorous criticism of his own work would have amended. Most of his essays might be abridged with advantage; the fertility of his resources causes him to obscure his main argument with collateral illustrations, and compels him, if not to go over the same ground, yet to travel again along the same lines of thought. He is very eager in his denunciation of popular vices, but his protests are not always wise or just. Drawing a lesson, for instance, for England from the moral condition of Roman society in the time of Juvenal, he says (p. 10):—"The growing wealth of our own country, its 'ever-increasing luxuries and refinements, its 'cessation from all plans of conquest, its principle of non-intervention in those noble quarrels 'which at any rate are more heroic than glut-tony and lust, its almost absolute security 'from the attacks of foreign enemies,—these 'and many other causes are combining to 'enable us to understand that rottenness of 'civilisation by which the Roman Empire was 'cursed.' Scarcely any suggestions could be more inappropriate than those of the words we have italicised. Not only were the politics of Rome demoralised by her 'plans of conquest,' and the principle of intervention which is a necessity of an empire founded on conquest,—her social life became luxurious, gluttonous, and vicious, because her wealth was the fruit of plunder, not of labour. 'The Roman Empire 'was cursed' by the 'rottenness' of barbarism, rather than of civilisation; its refinement, borrowed from Greece, was never naturalised; it covered the warrior-passions only as the 'Russian skin,' which 'scratched,' reveals the 'Tartar' beneath. Mr. Kirkus's plainness of speech sometimes becomes repellent. We wish he would count how many times in this volume he has written the words 'damn' and 'damnation.' Sometimes, indeed, their use is justified by their purpose; but their frequent recurrence is suggestive of a desire to shock as well as to instruct. The truth so admirably enforced in the following quotation, for instance, is forcible enough without the startling introductory sentence. Speaking of the frivolous people who prefer religious ceremonies for their own sake, he says:—

"They are the sort of people of whom it would scarcely be using too bold a metaphor to say, that they never can be saved except by being damned. Their religion is relatively if not absolutely worse than their irreligion. They are just as insincere at church as they are in a drawing-room; only in a church they are mocking God, and in a drawing-room they are only mocking Mrs. Grundy. They never will know what they are until they are stripped stark naked of every pious conventionalism, and brought face to face with the roughest realities of common conscience. The vagaries of these people may happen to strengthen for a while any cause whatever—like the votes of Irish Americans—but they are the true citizens of no State."

Blemishes such as we have indicated are sure to excite prejudice against the volume, and to weaken its moral influence. There is purpose in its publication. Four of the essays,—those on "Ritualism," "Romanism, Anglicanism, and "Evangelicalism logically identical," "Lecky's "Rationalism in Europe," and "The New Reformation," are concerned with one subject, which also receives incidental illustration in some of the other papers. Mr. Kirkus recognises in "Romanism, Anglicanism, and Evangelicalism," a common foundation of desire for "infallible dogma, and some available guardian or 'depository of infallible dogma.' Trust in ex-

ternal authority is the same in essence, whether the authority be that of the Church, of creeds and councils, or of the Bible interpreted according to an artificial system. Romans, Anglicans, and Evangelicals are alike suspicious of reason and afraid of inquiry. Dr. Pusey is hailed by the Evangelicals as an ally, when he insists "that there shall be one meaning of the word 'eternal,' authorised and unalterable; one 'authorised and infallible doctrine of atonement; one unchangeable dogma of inspiration; one authoritative definition of the nature and 'value of the Bible.' The whole spirit of the time is opposed to such a demand; no authority can be recognised as infallible; no dogma can be beyond the reach of criticism. Nor should it be otherwise. Reason and conscience must 'prove all things,' and be continually proving them, or faith is rendered baseless and piety is but superstition. Religion must justify itself as reasonable, or it will pass out of the sphere of things actually influencing men; the vitality of the Bible is, not that it demands a blind acceptance of its teachings, but that it commends itself to reason. It endures the test of 'the 'whole of human nature, and the whole of 'human experience.'"

Mr. Kirkus vindicates the term Rationalism from the abuses both of the orthodox and of unbelievers. Rationalism is descriptive of a method, the method of free inquiry, and ought not to be assigned to any set of results. Rationalism, for instance, examines the question of miracles; to demand a blind faith in them, or to deny their probability is equally irrational. Rationalism examines the books of the Bible; to believe in them without examining them; or to disbelieve them without examining them, is equally irrational. "The results of a rational investigation of the New Testament history I 'believe, for my own part," says Mr. Kirkus, "to be this—that the New Testament history is 'proved to be the best authenticated history in 'all literature.'"

"The one cure for Ritualism is Rationalism—by which I mean, not a set of results, but a method. The priests must be made to prove their priesthood; and gorgeous ceremonial must justify itself, or depart elsewhere. Perfectly free inquiry will cut up all this mischief by the roots, and nothing short of perfect freedom. Rationalism may lead us to Rome, or to Geneva; but, at any rate, let us know where we are going, and why we choose that road. Faith does not mean 'taking anything whatever for granted.' A man may believe whatever he likes, if he will look only to one set of facts, and he may give to his ignorant prejudice the name of faith. At the end of all inquiry, all observation and introspection, then will still remain great divine mysteries, facts which are the substance of all phenomena, truths which can be resolved into no simpler truths. But apart from these, we shall never get rid of pestilent superstitions and debasing lies until we reverse the dictum of St. Augustine, and give ourselves the trouble to know, in order that we may believe."

These essays are fitted to be of good service in the present state of theological parties, and we are glad of their publication. The minor blemishes we have noticed in Mr. Kirkus's lighter writing disappear as he devotes himself earnestly to the consideration of these questions.

DR. WALLACE'S "HOLY LAND."*

So many books of travel in Bible-lands have of late been given to the public, some of them written with rare learning and ability, that no man is warranted in adding to their number by the mere fact that he has spent a few months in the East. Unless he tell us something we have not heard before, or unless he have the art and courage to give us simply the impressions made on his own mind by familiar facts and scenes in forms that revive and deepen our impressions of them, he cannot expect to find hearing and favour. Happily, Dr. Wallace meets one of these conditions. He has nothing very new to tell the world; he has passed by familiar routes from Egypt to the Sinaitic Desert, from the Desert to Jerusalem, from Jerusalem to Galilee, but he has enjoyed his holiday very much, and makes us share his enjoyment; he enters into no disputed questions of site or measurement, or the meaning and value of inscriptions, he gives us simply the impression produced on his own mind by what he saw and heard. And, judging him simply from the volume before us, his mind is one of unusual simplicity (in the good sense), and candour—one, therefore, which reflects all impressions with singular accuracy and clearness. Of an invincible good humour, with a very keen eye for colour—and hardly any traveller we have met has so true and constant an appreciation of the value of the varied and intense hues of Syrian landscape—and with a freedom of thought and humour remarkable in a clergyman and yet most praiseworthy, he makes a capital travelling companion, and does

* *The Desert and the Holy Land.* By Dr. ALEXANDER WALLACE. Edinburgh: Oliphant and Co.

more to bring home to us the scenes in which he has sojourned than many more profound and elaborate authors. His descriptions of Wady Feiran, for instance, of Jaffa, and of Nazareth, are of an unusual excellence,—clear, vivid, and yet brief. In short, while travellers and students who have been over the same ground before will be happy to cover it again with so pleasant a companion, it would be hard to find a better book to put into the hands of young people and those to whom the most sacred sites in the world are as yet unknown.

Because we think well of the book, and hope it may see many editions, we note a few blemishes which may easily be removed. It is too much to expect of a Scotchman, perhaps, that he should renounce grammatical constructions and misconstructions which offend an English ear; but is it too much to ask that Mount Sinai should be spoken of as Mount Sinai, or as Ras-Sufsafah, and not as "the 'covenant altar'?" Dr. Wallace seems to have a special affection for this latter appellation; and perhaps it is a little cruel to ask him to cease from using it: but we beg to assure him that here in the South we are not familiar with it, that we even find a tang of cant in it which is very alien to a mind so open and genial as his. The only other defect we mark is more grave, though this too admits of easy remedy. We have a right to demand of a divine only an exact and scientific use of Scripture language. Nothing tends more to bring the Bible into contempt than a careless application, or rather misapplication, of its phrases. It is not reverent to cite verses or passages, not only torn from their context, but wrested from their original sense: and if those who know and love the Bible handle it thus irreverently, although of course they have no irreverent intention, they can hardly expect others to pay it due honour. Quite innocently, as far as intention goes, Dr. Wallace sins more than once in this respect. When, for example, he travels by the Ramleh Railway, he asks, "Is not this the high-way spoken of by the prophet that would 'be made through the desert?'" Now, as Dr. Wallace must know very well, when Isaiah spoke of that "highway," he was predicting the return of the exiles from the plains of Babylon, through the sands and wadys and mountain gorges of Arabia, to the hills of Judea, and assuring them that whatever might be the difficulties of the way, Jehovah would overcome them, that a highway should be prepared in the desert for the royal progress of the Great King, the valleys being filled up, the mountains and hills levelled, the rough places made smooth. And to take this great prophecy of an ancient deliverance as probably alluding to the modern railway that runs from Ramleh to Cairo, is certainly not to teach a reverent handling of Holy Writ. Other instances of this vicious style of quoting sacred words are to be found in this agreeable volume. The Doctor sees two jet-black Ethiopian boys in a mission-school at Alexandria, and forthwith cites the passage, "Ethiopia shall stretch out her hands unto God." Charmed with the clear stream which is the life of lonely Wady Feiran, he cites, "In the wilderness shall waters break 'out, and streams in the desert." A heavy dew on his tent sets him thinking of Gideon's fleece, and the bowl full of water which the ancient hero wrung out from it. In each of these, as in some other cases, the original sense of the passages quoted from Scripture suffers violence, and is either absurdly inappropriate to the case in hand or is degraded by a trivial and forced application. And Dr. Wallace's book is so good and pleasant a book that it will be well to free it from such very obvious defects as these.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Biblical Expositions, &c. By HENRY CRAIK. (London Morgan and Chase.) One of the Puritan divines remarks with as much truth as felicity that Holy Scripture is like, not a carpenter's workshop, in which are many worthless chips, but the workshop of a goldsmith, the very dust of which is precious. The friends of the late Henry Craik appear to hold a similar opinion of the value of whatever fell from his pen. We can by no means concur with them. It is pretty well-known that during his life Mr. Craik did much, in a quiet modest way and in a limited circle, to popularise the study of the Hebrew Scriptures; that, though not an original scholar or thinker, he had a certain skill in translating and expounding Holy Writ; that he published one or two books on the Hebrew language which beginners have found useful to them. But the present volume is very much more like carpenter's chips than the precious dust of a goldsmith. One or two of the lectures or expositions contained in it are pleasant reading enough, though even these lack depth and have no critical value. But the bulk of the volume is composed of bald notes and jottings such as any minister or clergyman might make for use in a Bible-class. In short, they

are "chips," and Mr. Craik's friends would have done well if they had cast them into the fire, to which we have no doubt Mr. Craik himself could have been consulted, would have hastily consigned them.

Journal of Sacred Literature. (Williams and Norgate.) We are sorry to learn from a notice inserted in the present number that the *Journal of Sacred Literature* is henceforth to be numbered with the dead. It has done good service for twenty years, and, though it has a good deal fallen off of late, we cannot but regret its too early demise. In the note which announces its extinction, however, the editor expresses an opinion, which is, to say the least of it, questionable. He holds that "the times are unfavourable for any expensive serial which 'appeals to the patient, the learned, and the thoughtful.'" We doubt that. To us it seems that a serial, however expensive, which deals with questions of Biblical criticism, never had a better chance than at the present day, if only it be thoughtful and learned enough. When, for instance, was any number of the *Quarterly* bought and read like that last number which contains Deutsch's article on the Talmud? The present number of the *Journal of Sacred Literature* also contains an article on the Talmud; and if this were like that, would not the *Journal* sell too? And there is still room for an article as good as the *Quarterly's*, if only any one can be found with wit and scholarship to write it. The Talmud is by no means exhausted. In that sea there are fish as good as, a few better than, any Deutsch has brought to land. And there was great need for an article against the Talmud to match his article for it. For though he frankly admits the many grotesque "gargoyles," the "abstruse propositions," the fond "fairy tales," the worthless rubbish to be found in Mishna and Gemara, yet these need to be cited and insisted on, if a fair and balanced view of the Talmud is to be given. Such an article is offered in the closing number of the *Journal*. But surely the editor should have understood that no such article would have much effect unless it were written with a learning and a power approaching those displayed by the writer in the *Quarterly*. Hurried and careless expressions of half-digested knowledge are poor opponents against the profoundest learning, the most perfect art. Yet while in the *Quarterly* we instinctively feel that we have the careful and polished expression of the results of the live-long study of original sources of knowledge, in the *Journal* article we feel that we have the results of acquaintance with what other men have said about the Talmud rather than what the writer himself has found in it, and brooded over, and made his own; and that these results of desultory reading are expressed hastily and inartistically. While in the *Quarterly* we are conscious of a mind that rejoices in the good it finds even though the good be mixed with much that is worthless or injurious, from the *Journal* we receive the impression of a spirit anxiously, and even vindictively, parading whatever wit it can produce from the Talmudic stores. Ignorant of both writers, we can of course only give the impression produced by these two articles on a candid perusal of them; and we confess that the defects we have noted in the article in the *Journal* go far in our view to account for its lack of success. For the same want of thoroughness and power of the highest kind are to be traced in all the articles of the present number, save only one, though that one is of itself enough to carry even a heavier weight than is imposed upon it. It is really curious to observe, for example, how in the article on "Butter and Honey" a Sign to Ahaz," the writer labours a quite common and accepted interpretation, an interpretation we have heard from more pulpits than one, as though it were something very novel and profound; and how little he makes of it when he has beat it out. So, again, the article on the Transfiguration of Christ is as poor, and laboured, and ineffective as it well can be: it might pass in a Sunday School Teacher's magazine, but is not what we have a right to expect in "an expensive serial," addressed to "the patient, the learned, and the thoughtful." Still, with all its short-comings, the last number of the *Journal* is not altogether unworthy of its ancestry. It contains eight chapters of Mr. Rodwell's Revised Translation of the Book of Job, and these are full of hard honest work—the work of a man who adds to competent learning great power of expression. There is as yet, so far as we know, no better translation, no translation of Job nearly so good as that of Mr. Rodwell, in the English language. And though we observe it is only a revised copy of the translation he published three or four years since in an independent form, and that the emendations are mainly verbal and somewhat rare, we trust he will nevertheless give it to the church in a more convenient shape.

The New Volume of *Nichol's Series of Commentaries* (Edinburgh: James Nichol; London: Nichol and Co.) "Cheap and nasty" is turned into "cheap and handsome" in these admirable reprints of scarce and valuable works, and the present volume is worthy of those which have gone before it. Good type and good paper and good matter here meet together. Biblical criticism and exegesis have advanced with such rapid strides during the last fifty years that in these departments the Puritan divines are not safe guides, although their learning was often the profoundest of their age. Nevertheless their works are, and will remain, most suggestive and instructive reading. No student can read Burrough's on the Beatitudes, for example—and this is the first work contained in the present volume of the series—

without feeling that he is the better man for it, and the better furnished for teaching others. There is a quiet simplicity, a weighty good sense, a plainness and directness of speech, a tender heartfelt devotion in this "painful preacher of the Gospel," which make his expositions wonderfully telling and impressive. There are not many better books than his "Beatitudes" for waking the nobler and tenderer moods of the soul, nor many which will be found more efficient helps to private meditation and devotion. It is a book to take down in weary moments, when the heart is faint and the light of hope burns low. In outward form and expression it suffers somewhat from the fact that it was printed from notes taken by the hands of one of Burroughs' attached hearers, and that it was never revised by him. But the stuff is good if the fashion be defective and antique. Rogers's "Strange Vineyard in Palestina," which completes the volume, is a work of higher stamp in so far as learning and power and an artistic use of them are concerned. Nothing can be finer than many passages in this commentary on Isaiah v. 1-7. If it lacks the pure spiritual tone of Burroughs, it is a most godly and devout book; it is bolder and more massive in thought and of a larger happier diction. The defence of poetry and singing, based on the phrase, "I sing to my well-beloved a song," is strangely modern in spirit and quaint in form; and there is great humour as well as wisdom in the lessons he draws from Isaiah's parable. Take a brief specimen. After noting that Isaiah, when plain prose had failed to touch his hearers, betook himself to poetry and songs, Rogers warns his hearers that they are not to condemn teachers for varying their methods of instruction.

"It is the wisdom of a minister to change his note as occasion shall require. While he hath to deal with a people of tractable disposition, he comes in a still meek voice, as God appeared to Elijah, and is a *Barnabas*, the Son of Consolation. When with the stubborn or refractory, then he lifts up his voice a strain higher, he 'cries aloud and spares not,' being a *Boanerges*, the Son of Thunder. Blame him not for this: for some men's hearts are like nettles—touch them but gently, and they will sting, when rough handling is without prejudice. And others are like briars, that wound the grasping hand of reproof, but yield willingly to them that softly touch them with the lady-like hand of exhortation."

"Aaron's bells must be wisely rung. Sometimes the treble of mercy sounds well, at other times the tenor of judgment, or counter-tenor of reproof, sounds better; and it often happens that the mean of exhortation sounds best of all."

"This man's method is excellent, saith one: I like this kind of teaching well. Such a one I like better, saith a second, and it is more profitable. Would that all had this man's way in preaching, saith a third: he goes for my money; of all that ever I heard, I like him best. And thus, like foolish frampole children, we care not for the meat, except we choose the spoon."

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Pulpit Echoes; or, Passages from Discourses and Expositions, by the Rev. John Macfarlane, LL.D.; Memoirs of Stonewall Jackson; Light and Truth; or, Bible Thoughts and Themes, by Horatius Bonar, D.D. (James Nisbet and Co.). The Daily Prayer-book, by Robert Vaughan, D.D.; The Mother's Friend, 1867; Short Stories for Long Evenings, by Sidney Daryl (Jackson, Walford, and Hodder). Universal Hymn, by Phillip James Bailey (Bell and Daldy). Curiosities of London, by John Timbs, F.S.A. (Longman, Green, Reader, and Dyer). The Analogies of Being, by Joseph Wood (Frederick Farrar). What is Religion? by Thomas Brevior (Heywood and Co.). Biblical Expositions, by the late Henry Craik (Morgan and Chase). The Sabbath on the Rock, by the Rev. Alexander Duff, D.D. (S. W. Partridge). Abyssinia and its People; or, Life in the Land of Prester John, edited by J. C. Hotten (Hotten). Shilling Lesson in French, or a Compendious French Grammar, by J. L. De Lolme (Cassell, Peter, and Galpin). The Year of Praise: being Family Prayers for the Christian Year, by Henry Alford, D.D. (Strahan and Co.). Saint Paul, by Frederick W. H. Myers (Macmillan and Co.). A Manual of Moral Philosophy, by W. Fleming, D.D.; The Massacre of St. Bartholomew, by Henry White (John Murray). The Critical English Testament, Vol. 8, Timothy to Revelation (Strahan and Co.). The Desert and the Holy Land, by Dr. Wallace (W. Oliphant). The Life and Reign of King David, by G. Smith, LL.D. (Longman's). Lays of a Heart, by G. Wade Robinson (Houlston and Wright). The Seals and Rolls of St. John (Johnston, Hunter, and Co.). Life of Pastor Liender (Longmans and Co.). The Promise of the Father Realised (Seeley and Co.). Chaucer, Prologue by Morris; Report of the Church Congress at Wolverhampton (Macmillan and Co.). My Mother, by Ann Taylor (S. W. Partridge). Tom Tracy, or whose is the Victory (T. Nelson and Sons). Seven Sermons, by the Rev. L. Lulliet (Wells, Gardner, and Co.). Light at Evening Time (T. Nelson and Sons). Anecdotes of Aborigines (S. W. Partridge). Representative Men, by E. Walford (Alfred W. Bennett). The Homoeopathic World, 1867 (Jarrold and Sons). Jeanie's Quiet Life, in 8 vols. (Hurst and Blackett). The Symbolical Numbers of Scripture, by the Rev. Malcolm White, M.A. (T. and T. Clark). The Philosophy of Revivals; Poems by J. W. Thomas; The Sunday Scholar's Annual (Elliot Stock). The Pilgrim and the Shrine, 3 vols. (Tinsley Brothers). Robinson Crusoe, Globe Edition (Macmillan and Co.). Daily Texts for Children (Jackson, Walford and Co.). Artisans, Reports, Paris Exhibition, 1867 (Bell and Daldy). When shall these Things Be? or, Signs of the Last Times, by Rev. Dr. Cumming; Memorials of the Rev. A. Crichton, B.A.; Byways in Palestine, by J. Finn, M.R.A.S. (Nisbet and Co.). Leaves from the Journal of our Life in the Highlands, Edited by Arthur Helps (Smith, Elder, and Co.). The Land of the Blessed, by M. Baxter (W. Reed).

NEW MUSIC.

Our list of new music from Messrs. Cocks', New Burlington-street, comprises two pianoforte pieces and a few songs, all of which are more suited for school

music than for one's own pleasure. Of the former we have "Home they brought her warrior dead" (Miss Lindsay's song), transcribed for the piano by W. Kube. This is simply arranged, and within the capacity of any ordinary player, and the song is well sustained throughout. "The Gipsy Waltz," by Karl Helmar, is very easy, and the melodies rather commonplace, the illustration on the face of it is decidedly the best part of the piece. The songs are rather better—"Far Away," by Miss Lindsay, is pretty, as all Miss Lindsay's songs are (though this is by no means her best), and the choice of good poetry is one of her great charms. "Shall I wake thee, gentle sleeper?" by Miss Anne Friker, is moderately good, though again it is not equal to some of her earlier compositions. "Sunshine," by Miss A. M. de Montmency, is bright, lively, and easy.

DICKENS ON WINE-COUNTRIES.—The wineshops are the colleges and chapels of the poor in France. History, morals, politics, jurisprudence, and literature in iniquitous forms, are all taught in these colleges and chapels, where professors of evil continually deliver those lessons, and where hymns are sung nightly to the demons of demoralisation. In these haunts of the poor, theft is taught as the morality of property, falsehood as speech, and assassination as the justice of the people. It is in the wine-shop the cabman is thought to think it heroic to shoot the middle-class man who disputes his fare. It is in the wine-shop the workman is taught to admire the man who stabs his faithless mistress. It is in the wine-shop the doom is pronounced of the employer who lowers the pay of the employed. The wineshops breed, in a physical atmosphere of malaria and a moral pestilence of envy and vengeance, the men of crime and revolution. Hunger is proverbially a bad counsellor, but drink is worse.—*Charles Dickens.*

A FRENCH CHRISTENING.—In France it is not allowed to parents to give their children the Christian names they may think fit:—they must select names from the Roman catalogue of Saints, or from ancient history, and must take no others. They must also go to the office of the mayor of the district in which they reside to announce what the name is. A Parisian journalist relates the following story of a friend of his, a happy father, who accompanied his infant daughter to the mayor's offices to make the declaration required by law. "What Christian name do you give to this child?" asks the clerk. "Zuline." "Zuline! We cannot accept such a name as that." "And why not, if you please?" "The law." "What law?" "A law of Germinal, An. X., which prohibits any other names than those contained in the calendar, or those found in ancient history." The father returns home to consult his wife, and after a fresh name has been fixed on, returns to the Mairie, and the dialogue recommences:—"I have a name that will, I hope, satisfy you and the law Germinal, as it was borne by an illustrious woman of antiquity. Please to enter my daughter as Loena." "I have never heard of that name; it is not to be found in ancient history." "I beg your pardon." The clerk goes to consult his colleagues and then returns. "Sir, its no use attempting to deceive us; we have all studied our classics at school, and we have never heard of Loena; who is she?" "A young Greek woman who bit off her tongue and spat it in the face of her torturers, not to be forced to betray the secret of a conspiracy." "Ah! I thought as much; you are a disaffected perturbator! You acknowledge it at last! No; your daughter shall not be either Zuline or Loena, and, if you are not satisfied, complain to the mayor."

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 37, for the week ending Wednesday, Jan. 15.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£26,008,785	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	£ 3,981,909
		Gold Coin & Bullion	£1,003,795
	£26,008,785		£26,008,785

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities (inc. dead weight annuity)	£14,560,046
Reserve	£ 2,268,557	Other Securities	£ 17,896,828
Public Deposits	£ 2,234,627	Notes	£11,678,965
Other Deposits	£ 28,000,437	Gold & Silver Coin	£ 1,003,478
Seven Day and other Bills	£ 680,691		
	£44,737,312		£44,737,312

Jan. 16, 1868. FRANK MAY, Deputy Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—A Cure for Abscesses, Piles, Fistulas, and Sores. The very satisfactory results arising from the use of this invaluable Ointment in cases where Patients have been suffering from abscesses, ulcers, piles, or fistulas, have induced many of the medical profession to introduce it into the hospitals and their private practice; and in many instances where the sufferer was considered incurable Holloway's Ointment, in conjunction with his Pills, healed the most desperate wounds. They are also unequalled for the cure of Scrofula, Scurvy, and other diseases of the skin. The balsamic and healing properties of Holloway's Ointment render it invaluable in the nursery for healing cuts, scratches, and sores, and for allaying inflammation, reducing swellings, and cleansing unhealthy skins it is unequalled.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

LEES.—October 26, at the London Mission, Tientain, the wife of the Rev. Jonathan Lees, of a son.
DUDGEON.—October 26, at Pekin, the wife of John Dudgeon, Esq., M.D., of the London Missionary Society's Hospital, of a daughter.
EDKINS.—October 31, at the London Mission, Pekin, the wife of the Rev. Joseph Edkins, M.A., of a daughter.
BAKER.—January 9, at Ramsey, the wife of the Rev. T. Baker, B.A., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

FINGLASH-WATTS.—January 6, at the Independent chapel, Hall-gate, Doncaster, by the Rev. B. S. Frost, Mr. John Finglash, to Barbara Hanson, daughter of the late Mr. Wm. Watts, ironfounder, all of Doncaster.

WOODS-JAMES.—January 7, at the Congregational chapel, Manningtree, by the Rev. T. S. King, Mr. Gilbert Woods, to Rosannah James, both of Mistley, Essex.

BENDALL-SHEPPARD.—January 7, at Argyle Chapel, Bath, by the Rev. B. O. Bendall, of Stamford, Robert Smith Bendall, of 52, Canonbury Park North, London, to Phoebe, youngest daughter of the late James Sheppard, Esq., of Bath.

WIGHTON-WALLIS.—January 7, at Westminster Chapel, by the Rev. Edward G. Cecil, Charles H. Wighton, Fulham-road, to Sarah Ann Wallis, of Quadring, Lincolnshire.

POYSER-GRADWELL.—January 8, at the Rydal Mount Wesleyan Chapel, Waterloo-road, Manchester, by the Rev. J. A. Armstrong, Mr. Charles Frederick Poyser, Cheetham, to Rose Ann, second daughter of Mr. Garnde Gradwell, Lower Broughton.

ROE-HEATON.—January 9, at the Baptist chapel, Sutton-in-Craven, Yorkshire, by the Rev. W. E. Archer, Mr. James Roe, corn-miller, Leeds, to Elizabeth Heaton, Brook End, Keighley.

TURNER-CHADWICK.—January 10, at Queen's-street Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. W. Thomas, Mr. Benjamin Turner, to Miss Mary Elizabeth Chadwick, both of Leeds.

BAIRD-BELL.—January 9, at the United Presbyterian chapel, Infirmary-street, Bradford, by the Rev. Andrew G. Russell, Mr. John Londonderry Baird, of Ilkington, to Miss Elizabeth Jane Bell, niece of Mr. A. French, of Bradford.

UTLEY-JOHNSON.—January 13, at the United Methodist Free Church, Farsley, by the Rev. J. G. Dowson, Mr. George Utley, Bradford, to Miss Sarah Johnson, of Todmorden.

DEATHS.

BAREZ.—December 23, at No. 18, Leicester-square, the Rev. Henry Barez, the last minister of the French Protestant Episcopal Church of St. Martin Organs, formerly in Cannon-street, London, aged seventy-nine.

BAYNES.—January 9, at 2, Paul-street, Portland-square, Bristol, Ann Day, the beloved wife of the Rev. Joseph Baynes, late of Wellington, Somerset, in her seventieth year. Friends will please accept this intimation.

GIBBERD.—January 10, highly respected, Mr. John Gibberd, aged seventy-eight. He was in business at Bedworth fifty years, and a deacon of the church at the Old Meeting sixteen years, when he removed to Foles-hill-place Coventry, and became a deacon of the church in Vicar-lane.

TARRANT.—January 10, at Leeds, aged four years and nine months, Charlotte Amelia, second daughter of the Rev. H. Tarrant.

SCOTT.—January 10, at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Lidgett, Blackheath, after a very short illness, the Rev. John Scott, principal of the Wesleyan Training College, Westminster, in the seventy-sixth year of his age.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, January 13.

The sudden change from frost and snow to a mild temperature has exercised its influence on the trade, and the improvement noticed during the past week has disappeared to-day. The small supply of English wheat to this morning's market met with little attention from buyers, and ultimately factors were compelled to reduce their quotations 1s. to 2s. per quarter from the rates of this day's night. The demand for foreign wheat was very quiet, and the tendency of prices in favour of the buyer. Barley dull. Beans and peas unaltered. The arrivals of oats for the week are moderate. Notwithstanding this, the trade for this article has fully participated in the general depression, and the advance obtained on Friday has been lost to-day. We quote prices about the same as on this day week, with a slow sale.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent, red, old ..	69 to 73	
Do ditto new ..	64 71	
White, old ..	73 79	
Do ditto new ..	64 75	
Foreign red ..	67 73	
Do white ..	69 76	
BARLEY—		
English malting ..	84 85	
Ovaler ..	39 46	
Distilling ..	36 40	
Foreign ..	33 35	
MALT—		
Pale ..	—	—
Ovaler ..	—	—
Brown ..	50 57	
BEANS—		
Ticks ..	40 43	
Harrow ..	41 44	
Small ..	—	—
Egyptian ..	43 45	

BREAD.—LONDON, Saturday, January 11.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 10½d.; house-hold ditto, 7½d. to 9½d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, January 13.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 6,313 head. In the corresponding week in 1867 we received 7,309; in 1868, 6,373; in 1865, 4,031; in 1864, 2,033; in 1863, 4,030; in 1862, 1,697; and in 1861, 806 head. To day's market was scantily supplied with foreign stock, in, for the most part, middling condition. Sales progressed slowly, and the quotations had a drooping tendency. Fresh up from our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts were limited, but the quality of most breeds was prime. Owing to the large supplies of meat on offer in the dead markets, the demand for beasts ruled heavy, at a further decline in the quotations of 2d. per 8 lbs. The best Scots and crosses sold at 5s. per 8 lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received about 1,100 Scots &c.; from other parts of England, 600 various breeds; from Scotland, 450 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 170 oxen, cows, &c. Although the show of sheep was very moderate, the inquiry for all breeds was heavy, and last week's currency was with difficulty supported. The best Downs and half-breeds sold at barely 4s. 10d. per 8 lbs. Calves—the supply of which was limited—moved off slowly, at stationary prices, viz., from 4s. 4d. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lbs. The demand for pigs was heavy, at late rates. The highest price was 4s. 2d. per 8 lbs.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the Offal.

Inf. coarse beasts	4 to 6	Prime Southdown	4 to 10
Second quality	3 8 to 4 0	Lambs	0 0 to 0 0
Prime large oxen	4 2 to 4 6	Egs. coarse calves	4 4 to 4 8
Prime So. te. &c.	4 8 to 5 0	Prime small	4 10 to 5 4
Coarse inf. sheep	3 2 to 3 6	Large hogs	3 4 to 3 8
Second quality	3 8 to 4 0	Neaten. porkers	3 10 to 4 2
Pr. coarse woolled	4 2 to 4 6		

Suckling calves, 23s. to 28s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 26s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, January 13.

Rather large supplies of meat, slaughtered in Scotland and the provinces, are on sale here. Trade, therefore, is heavy

and prices have a drooping tendency. Last week's imports into London were confined to 20 packages from Hamburg.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcase.

Inf. mutton	3 6 to 3 10	Inf. mutton	3 6 to 3 10
Middling ditto	3 8 to 3 8	Middling ditto	4 0 to 4 2
Prime large do.	3 10 to 4 2	Prime ditto	4 2 to 4 4
Do. small do.	4 4 to 4 6	Veal	3 10 to 4 6
Large pork	3 0 to 3 4	Lamb	0 0 to 0 0
Small pork	3 10 to 4 2		

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 11.—Last week's quotations are now barely maintained. Pines and grapes are quite sufficient for the demand. Among the latter are good samples of Lady Downes' seedling and Muscata. Pears comprise Ne Plus Mearis, Glou. Morceau, and Jean de Witte. St. Michael oranges are still arriving in fine condition. Apples comprise the usual varieties in season. Chestnuts continue to make their appearance in large quantities. Potatoes have not altered in price since our last report. Asparagus still realises fair prices. Flowers chiefly consist of orchids, Chinese primulas, pelargoniums, mignonette, early tulips, polianthes pulcherrima, and roses.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Jan. 13.—Our market has been materially strengthened during the past week by the good demand for samples of fine quality, and although transactions have been restricted by the few actually on offer, a firmer character has been imparted to prices generally. Continental markets are reported firm and strong, at the recent advance of 5s. to 7s. per cwt., and exports to this side are gradually declining. New York advices to the 31st ultimo report the hop market as quiet; the large importations of foreign have already begun to affect the currency. Mid and East Kent, 6l. 15s., 8l. 15s. to 10l. 10s.; Weald of Kents, 6l., 6l. 10s. to 7l. 7s.; Sussex, 6l., 6l. 6s. to 6l. 15s.; Farnham S., 8l. 15s. to 10l.; Bavarians, 4l. 10s., 5l. 15s. to 7l.; Belgians, 5l. 15s., 4l. 4s. to 4l. 15s.; yealings, 5l. 10s., 6l. to 6l. 15s.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Jan. 13.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 674 firkins butter, and 4,752 bales bacon; and from foreign ports, 21,644 casks, &c., butter, and 175 bales bacon. The small stock of Irish butter on hand is working off at irregular prices. Anything good brings an advance. Foreign sold well; best Dutch advanced to 120s. to 121s. Bacon with a slow trade; prices remained rather firm. Lard more inquired for.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Jan. 13.—These markets are well supplied with potatoes. The trade, on the whole, is steady, at late rates. The import into London last week consisted of 116 tons from Rouen, 616 sacks Dieppe, 24 bags 46 sacks Dunkirk, and 30 tons from Duclair. Regents, 120s. to 170s. per ton; flukes, 130s. to 170s.; rocks, 100s. to 130s.; French, 80s. to 90s.

SEED, Monday, Jan. 13.—There was more English red cloverseed offering to-day. Quality was very various; some fine, but mostly of medium quality. The best realised high rates; secondary sorts, from 55s. to 60s. per cwt. Trefoils were steady in value, with a limited demand. No quotable change in any sort of mustarseed. Fine canaryseed was scarce and dear. Maize realised quite as high rates; imports, 5,378 qrs. Spring tares met some inquiry.

WOOL, Monday, Jan. 13.—The wool market continues in a very depressed state, and prices are gradually receding. There is some little demand, but at such a reduction in rates as holders are not at present disposed to grant. Colonial wools are also very inactive, at nominally late rates.

OIL, Monday, Jan. 13.—Lined oil has ruled steady, and prices have had an upward tendency. For rape oil the demand is without improvement. Olive oils have been held more firmly, but Coconut and palm oils have been in limited demand.

TALLOW, Monday, Jan. 13.—The market is firm. P. Y. C. on the spot is quoted at 43s. 9d. Town tallow, 42s. 6d. (net cash).

COAL, Monday, Jan. 13.—Market heavy at last day's rate. Hetton's 11s., Wylam 16s. 6d., New Belmont 18s. 6d., Tunstall 18s., Holywell 16s., Hetton Lyons 18s., Hartley's 15s. 9d., Lumley 17s. 6d. Fresh ships, 17; left, 8; at sea, 5.

Advertisements.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL. BUILDING SOCIETY.

7, BLOMFIELD-STREET, FINSBURY.

The ANNUAL MEETING of SUBSCRIBERS will be held at the SOCIETY'S OFFICE, on TUESDAY, January 21st, at Four o'clock in the afternoon.

The usual SOCIAL MEETING will take place in the EVENING at the LONDON MISSION HOUSE. EUSEBIUS SMITH, Esq., Treasurer, in the Chair.

The under-mentioned Gentlemen are expected to address the Meeting:—Rev. J. S. Russell, A.M., of Baywater. Subject—Chapel-building—in its Relation to Preaching. Rev. J. Smedmore, of Barking. Subject—Chapel-building—in its Relation to Worship. Rev. J. Stoughton, of Kensington. Subject—Chapel-building—in its Relation to Church Life.

Ten and Coffee will be served at Half-past Five o'clock, and the business commence at Half-past Six o'clock.

The Committee will be gratified by the attendance of Ladies.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—MR. MASON

JONES will deliver an ADDRESS on this subject next MONDAY EVENING, Jan. 20, at the EYRE ARMS, ST. JOHN'S-WOOD. JOSIAS ALEXANDER, ESQ., will take the Chair at Eight o'clock. Admission free.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—MR. MASON

JONES will deliver an ADDRESS next TUESDAY EVENING, Jan. 21, at the VESTRY HALL, CHELSEA. Sir HENRY A. HOARE, BART., will take the Chair at Eight.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—MR. MASON

JONES will deliver an ADDRESS next WEDNESDAY EVENING, Jan. 22, at WESTBOURNE HALL, WESTBOURNE GROVE. MR. ALDERMAN LUSK, M.P., will take the Chair at Eight.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—MR. MASON

JONES will deliver an ADDRESS on this subject on FRIDAY EVENING, Jan. 24, at the LECTURE HALL, GREENWICH. Chair to be taken at Eight.

UNITED SUNDAY CLOSING ASSOCIATION.

FRIENDS of RELIGION and TEMPERANCE, please to HELP us generously and promptly, in order to CARRY Mr. JOHN ABEL SMITH'S AMENDED BILL INTO LAW.

JOHN GARRETT, D.D., Chairman, &c.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, CALEDONIAN-ROAD, N.

Twenty eminent Physicians and Surgeons give their services gratuitously. Patients are admitted free.

A WARD is CLOSED for want of Funds. £2,000 would complete the purchase and furnishing of the New Hospital and provide treble the number of FREE BEDS for the SICK POOR.

F. SMITH, Esq., Hon. Secretary.

GEORGE REID, Secretary.

MR. THOMAS BUTTERWORTH'S TRUST

for EDUCATING STUDENTS intended to be PROTESTANT DISSIDENT MINISTERS.

The Trustees will MEET at One p.m. on THURSDAY, the 27th of February, 1868, in the MEMORIAL HALL, ALBERT-SQUARE, MANCHESTER, to consider Applications for a grant or grants "towards maintaining and Educating in some private school or academy in England, or in some of the Universities in Scotland, some youth or youths brought up scholars and designing to be Protestant ministers of the Gospel." The benefit of the Trust is confined to youths dwelling at the time of the nomination in Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, or Yorkshire, with a preference in favour of young men dwelling in the county of Lancaster and town of Manchester, and in the neighbourhood thereof, who shall be proper objects of the trust. The annual sum at the disposal of the Trustees is at present £16.

Applications, accompanied by letters or a letter from two Protestant Dissident ministers of the Gospel, stating particulars as to the age, scholarship, and design of the applicant, and as to his resources and any other circumstances showing the propriety of a grant in his favour, are invited to be addressed, on or before the 30th of January, to Butterworth's Trust, Memorial Hall, Manchester.

CIVIL SERVICE OF INDIA.—Candidates

intending to present themselves at the open competition, commencing on March 31, are reminded that certificates of birth, health, and character should be sent to the office of the Civil Service Commissioners on or before the 1st of February.

WANTED, immediately, a well qualified

MASTER for a Congregational DAY-SCHOOL under Government inspection. An Independent preferred.

Apply (stating age and experience), not later than January 25th, to Rev. Thomas Cain, Ramabottom, near Manchester.

A GENTLEMAN of considerable experience

(DRAPERY) would accept a SITUATION of trust in a genuine business, with a view to partnership, or purchase of the whole, and would advance £1,500 to £2,000 on first-class security. A 1 references given and required.

G. T., Post-office, Tavistock.

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT, for

a small family (no children). Must be thoroughly clean, and understand plain cooking. A trustworthy person will find this a comfortable situation. Age about twenty-five.

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WANTED, immediately, a thorough

GENERAL SERVANT. Must cook well, not object to a little washing. Small family, private house.

22, Hanley-road, Hornsey-rise, Holloway, N.

WANTED, immediately, a steady, ACTIVE

LAD, as an indoor APPRENTICE to the PLUMBING, GLAZING, PAINTING, PAPER-HANGING, &c., or one who has served part of his time would be treated with.

Apply to Benjamin Angell, Park-street, Chatteris, Cambs.

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Music, Theory, &c. . . JOHN BROOKLY, Esq.
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Drawing and Painting . . . R. W. BURS, Esq.
Geology and Biblical Studies . . . Rev. J. W. TODD.
French Language . . . Dr. MANDROU.
German Language . . . Dr. SCHINZEL.

Referres.—Parents of Pupils and Clergymen.

For Particulars, address the Principal, Mrs. TODD.

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SCHOOL, QUEEN'S-SQUARE.

PRINCIPAL—Mr. JAMES CROMPTON. Assisted by six Masters and Professors.

In addition to careful mental and moral training, the pupils enjoy the advantage of seaside residence and the comforts of home.

Extract from Report of the Examiner, Rev. E. Lewis, B.A., F.R.G.S., F.R.S.:—

"The result of this examination shows that Mr. Crompton must be a most efficient teacher of youths, and that by his remarkable skill in this work he not only benefits those who are entrusted to his care, but the country to which they belong."

REFERRES.—Rev. Alexander Raleigh, D.D.; Rev. James Spence, D.D.; Rev. Andrew Reed, B.A., St. Leonard's; John Crossley, Esq., Halifax; Henry Lee, Esq., Manchester.

Prospectuses with References to Parents, Examiner's Report, Prize List, &c., on application.

MILLHILL SCHOOL, HENDON,

Middlesex.

Head-Master and Chaplain—Rev. G. D. BARTLET, M.A. Mathematical Master—A. CONNALL, M.A.

Master of Foreign Languages—Professor REINHARDT.

This School is situate 10 miles from London, and can now be reached by railroad from King's-cross.

The first Session of 1868 will begin on Wednesday, Jan. 29.

Prospectuses with reports of recent examiners, may be obtained from the Head-Master, at the School, or from the Rev. G. Smith, D.D., Hon. Sec., Congregational Library, Finsbury, E.C.

NORTHERN CONGREGATIONAL

SCHOOL, SILOOATES HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.

Principal—The Rev. JAMES BEWGLASS, LL.D., M.R.I.A.

The above School receives, in addition to the Sons of Ministers and Missionaries, a limited number of the Sons of Laymen, who are carefully instructed in all the branches of a sound Classical, Mathematical, and Commercial Education, and are prepared for any department of business, or for entrance at the Universities.

The School will REOPEN, after the Christmas Vacation, on TUESDAY, January 14th, 1868.

Application for the admission of Pupils to be addressed to the Principal.

HURST COURT, ORE, HASTINGS.

Dr. MARTIN REED receives Pupils from Six to Eighteen years of age. The course of study is adapted to the requirements and capabilities of the individual pupil, embracing all the subjects of a thoroughly liberal education. Hurst Court is a spacious mansion built expressly for a school, with private bedrooms, bath-rooms, play-rooms, gymnasium, and the conveniences of a first-class establishment. The site, at an elevation of 400 feet above the sea, was carefully selected, with the approbation of eminent physicians, as especially favourable to physical development.

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TERMS:
For Pupils entering under 14 years of age, 50 guineas.
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The Next TERM will COMMENCE on Saturday, the 25th January.

EDUCATION for YOUNG LADIES.

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Conducted by the Misses MIALL, assisted by Professors, and French and English Resident Governesses.

A thoroughly solid English education, under the immediate superintendence of the Principals; with all the necessary accomplishments—French, German, Latin, Music, Singing, Drawing, &c. Occasional Scientific Lectures from Professors. Special attention given to moral and religious training; and the comforts and advantages of a refined home provided.
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Mr. LONG'S Pupils have taken Honours in numerous Public Examinations—

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The London University Matriculation,
The English and Indian Civil Service, &c.

In the last-named very high positions have been gained.
Terms, inclusive, from Forty to Seventy Guineas. Foreign Pupils received.

CAMBRIDGE HOUSE SCHOOL,

HAGLEY-ROAD, EDGBASTON, near Birmingham.

Principal—Mr. FREDERIC EWEN.
This School is well situated in one of the healthiest and most beautiful suburban districts in the kingdom.

The more advanced pupils are regularly sent up to the University examinations, which many of them have passed.

School will REOPEN on TUESDAY, January 28th.

THE VALE ACADEMY, RAMSGATE.

Principal, Mr. M. JACKSON.
The Pupils of this Establishment receive a first-rate Education in English, Latin, Greek, French, German, Mathematics, and Natural Science, and have taken distinguished positions at the Universities, the Oxford Local and Civil Service Examinations.

The FIRST TERM of 1868 will COMMENCE on FRIDAY, the 17th inst.

STONEYGATE SCHOOL, LEICESTER.

Mr. FRANKLIN'S SCHOOL will REOPEN on TUESDAY, Jan. 21. The terms for Boarders are Forty, Fifty, or Sixty Guineas per annum, according to age.

Thirty boys from this School have lately passed Public Examinations; some, the Matriculation Examination of the University of London; others, both as Junior and Senior Candidates, the Oxford and Cambridge Local Examinations.

WILTON LODGE, TAUNTON.

SELECT ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES.

Conducted by Miss GRIFFITH,
Daughter of the Rev. W. H. Griffith, M.A., Principal of Taunton Proprietary School.

Miss Griffith, having secured increased accommodation, is now prepared to receive a larger number of Pupils.
SCHOOL will REOPEN on FRIDAY, January 24.

LLANDAFF HOUSE, CAMBRIDGE.

Principal—W. H. F. JOHNSON, M.A. Trin. Coll.

Pupils are prepared for Business, the Professions, and the University. Applications for terms to be made to the above address.

N.B.—During the last six years, fifty-one Certificates have been obtained by Pupils who have passed the Cambridge Local Examinations.

EDUCATION in GUERNSEY.—The Rev.

U. B. RANDALL, M.A., Pastor of the English Congregational Church, wishes to RECEIVE into his family TWO or THREE YOUNG GENTLEMEN for Education at Elizabeth College. All the advantages of a first-class Classical and Mathematical School are offered by this College. Private instruction if desired.

Prospectus and Terms on application.

WEST of ENGLAND DISSENTERS' PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, TAUNTON.

Principal—Rev. W. H. GRIFFITH, M.A.

The PUPILS are expected to REASSEMBLE on FRIDAY, January 24th.

Application for prospectuses to be made to the Principal or to the Secretary, Rev. J. S. Underwood.

SEASIDE (Education at the).—The Rev. W.

PORTER and Mr. JOHN STEWART will have a FEW VACANCIES at WEST HILL HOUSE, HASTINGS, after the Christmas Vacation. In the last three years their pupils have obtained from the Cambridge University, at the Local Examinations, 24 Certificates—26 Junior and 8 Senior.

An ASSISTANT-MASTER WANTED.

SOUTH COAST.—EDUCATION for

YOUNG GENTLEMEN.—HEATHFIELD HOUSE, PARKSTONE, midway between Poole and Bournemouth.

This establishment, conducted by Rev. WALTER GILL, assisted by thoroughly efficient Masters, will REOPEN (p.v.) on FRIDAY, January 24th.

Terms moderate. References to Parents of Pupils.

SOUTHPORT, BERKELEY HOUSE

SCHOOL, LEICESTER-STREET.

JAMES COLLIER, B.A., Principal.

Thorough training for commercial pursuits. Gentlemanly home.

Terms, &c., on application.

ROSE-HILL SCHOOL, BOWDON, near

Manchester.

The school WILL MEET on MONDAY, January 27th, 1868, at Three p.m.

THEOPHILUS D. HALL, M.A., Head-Master.

FOREST HOUSE, WOODFORD, N.E.

The School REOPENS on WEDNESDAY, January 22.

Prospectuses sent on application to the Principal, G. F. H. Sykes, B.A. There are a few Vacancies.

PELICAN HOUSE, PECKHAM.—MISS

FLETCHER begs to inform her friends that her PUPILS will REASSEMBLE on TUESDAY, the 28th inst.

SHORTHAND.—PITMAN'S PHONO-

GRAPHY.—Phonography is taught in Class, at 7s. 6d.; or Private Instruction given, personally or by post, for £1 1s. the Perfect Course of Lessons.
London: 20, Paternoster-row, E.C.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—The "WAG-

HER-EYES" of the Moon actually displayed at the Royal Polytechnic, for the gratification of the sceptical, showing the playful habits of the spectral "Man in the Moon." And numerous other entertainments. Admission 1s. Open 12 till 5, 7 till 10.

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Prospectuses, copies of the Triennial Report, 1866, and all needful information, may be obtained on application to

ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.

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1867 1,032 £502,806 £16,578

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W. J. VIAN, Secretary.

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Respectfully announce that, previous to Stock-taking, and in order to make room for their SPRING PURCHASES, they have decided on offering their REMAINING PART of their AUTUMN and WINTER STOCK, at a GREAT REDUCTION in PRICE.

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The Public are invited to take this opportunity of securing some decided bargains.

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Jackets, beautifully soft and silk-like, sacrificed at 2s. 6d. the yard, usually sold at 4s. 6d. Patterns sent.—HARVEY and CO., LAMBETH HOUSE, Westminster-bridge, S.

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CO.'S own make, celebrated for half a century for Elegance, Fit, Finish, Strength, and Durability. The Ladies' Gloves are delicately perfumed. All Colours in stock. Ladies', 4s. 4d.; Gentlemen's, 4s. 8d.; post-free two extra stamps. A beautiful assortment of Glove Boxes suitable for presents. WHEELER and CO., 210, Regent-street, W., and 23, Poultry, E.C. Ladies' Paris Kid Gloves, 2s. 6d.; with two buttons, 3s.; Gentlemen's, 3s.

Agents for FELIX SULTANA'S Delicious Perfume, Heliotrope, 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. per bottle.

HOLYLAND'S, 150, Strand, two doors west

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MANTLES, JACKETS, and CLOAKS in the newest style.

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Beds from 1s. 6d. per Night.

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Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s. 8d.

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COOPER COOPER and CO., 50, King William-street, London-bridge, and 63, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C., have determined to furnish a complete and satisfactory answer to the universal question, "Where can we get really good tea?" The recent reductions in the duty, coupled with an enormous increase in the imports, have made tea so cheap that the choicest black tea the world produces can be sold to the public at a price which is so low as to render the sale of inferior qualities unnecessary. When the best black tea can be bought at three shillings a pound, it does seem unwise to buy poor, watery, tasteless tea at a few pence a pound less money. Cooper, Cooper, and Co. have therefore resolved to avoid all second or third class tea, and to confine their business to high-class tea alone. It is well known that all high-class teas are those which are gathered in early spring, when the leaves are bursting with succulence: these are first-crop teas, full flavoured, rich, and juicy; whereas low price teas are gathered, or rather raked, from under the trees in autumn, when the leaves are withered, dry, and sapless. The difference between first-crop teas and inferior descriptions is something marvellous when tasted side by side—the one brisk, pungent, and juicy; the other stale, flat, and insipid. There is a great difference even in first-crop tea, some shops possessing much more strength and a finer flavour than others. There are also several varieties, the most esteemed being Souchong, Monong, and Kyahow Congous. These three classes, when really fine, are beyond compare the best of all teas; and of these three Kyahow stands pre-eminent as a prince among teas. Now, it must not for one moment be assumed that the teas ordinarily sold bearing those titles are these teas, pure and simple in their integrity. A small portion of some of them is sometimes used in the manufacture of that incongruous mixture which is so frequently recommended by the unskilled and inexperienced dealer; but we venture to assert that pure unmixed tea can with difficulty be obtained even by those to whom price is no object. In fact, indiscriminate mixing of tea destroys those fine and subtle qualities which distinguish one growth from another, and it would not be more unwise to spoil vintages of choice wines by blending them together haphazard, and thus bringing the combination down to a dead level of mediocrity, than it is to ruin all distinctness of character by a heterogeneous confusion of qualities in tea; but as Cooper, Cooper, and Co. sell no other article of any description, they are enabled to keep in stock every variety that is at all esteemed by connoisseurs, and to sell them in their integrity as imported from China.

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3. The finest Kyahow Congou (the prince of teas), 3s. a lb. This is brisk, rich, true Pekoe Souchong-flavoured tea, perfect in strength, perfect in quality, beautifully manipulated, full of flower; a tea to sip, to dwell upon, to turn over on the palate as an alderman does his turtle; suitable for the drawing-room, the boudoir, the cottage, the palace, the tolling millions as well as the upper ten thousand; the former cannot drink a more economical tea, the latter, with all their wealth, cannot buy better tea.
4. The finest Assam Congou, 3s. a lb. This is very strong tea, of Indian growth, draws a deep red liquor, is very pungent, a little coarse, but drinks full in the mouth. It is quite a distinct class of tea, rather peculiar, and not appreciated by all; in fact, to like it requires an acquired taste.
5. The finest Oolong, 3s. a pound. This is high burnt, very pungent tea, and is an especial favourite with the tea-drinking public in America, among whom it is more esteemed than in England; in fact, the Americans drink hardly any other tea. It draws a pale liquor, and resembles green tea in many respects.
6. The finest Canton scented Pekoe, 3s. a lb. This is a fine, wiry leaf, strongly scented tea, of peculiar piquancy and sharpness of flavour, and is frequently used to fetch up the flavour of second-class teas. It is more frequently used as a curiosity, and as an experiment than by the tea-drinking public; it is, in fact, a fancy tea.
7. The finest Foo Chow scented Pekoe, 3s. a lb. This is a small, closely twisted leaf, scented with jessamine flower. When infused, it exhales a rich and fragrant perfume, which is perhaps less grateful to the palate than to the other senses.
8. The finest scented Caper, 3s. a lb. This is a small, shotty leaf, very compact and heavy, drinks very brisk and pungent. It is rather a plebeian tea, but is occasionally tried by diligent seekers after excellence, who at last settle down to the "Princely Kyahow."

No other price for black tea.

LIST OF FINE GREEN TEAS.

9. The finest Moyune Hyson, 4s. a lb. This tea is delicately fine. Its flavour resembles that of the cowslip, and the colour of the infusion is marvellously like cowslip wine. It possesses the finest flavour of all green teas. It is principally consumed in Russia.
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11. The finest Moyune Gunpowder, 4s. a lb. This tea is much esteemed in England. It is brisk, high-burnt flavour, hot in leaf, and heavy; it is not so fine or so pure in flavour as Hyson, but its great strength renders it a favourite with many.

12. The finest Ping Suey Gunpowder, 4s. a lb. This is very small in the leaf, very handsome and compact, resembles pin heads, but is not so pungent in liquor as Moyune Gunpowder.

13. The finest Imperial, 4s. a lb. This is a large knotty leaf tea, very strong, but not much in flavour; but when really fine is sought after by the curious.

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There are other classes of tea, but these are the choicest and best. Cooper, Cooper, and Co. recommend consumers to try the first four on the list—Souchong, Monong, Kyahow, and Assam. By having a small parcel of each of these they will be enabled to judge for themselves and select the flavour suitable to their taste, and then by sending for the one approved of by number, they may always rely upon having exactly the same character of tea.

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